

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Expelled:
Nora Beloff tells how she was turned out of Yugoslavia in the latest crackdown

Money on the move
The profits and pleasures of business travel



Irish lines
Profile of the poet Seamus Heaney by Bel Mooney

Wallabies' welcome
Touchdown to the Australian Rugby Union side

War Times
Vol V of The History of The Times, covering the war years, reviewed by Lord McGregor of Durris

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize was shared by two winners yesterday. Mr Andrew Clay of Worktop, Notts, and Mr Christopher Evans of Portlaid, East Sussex, each received £1,000. Portfolio list page 18. How to play, information service, back page.

Vauxhall plants at standstill

Vauxhall's three car and truck assembly plants are at a standstill after most of the company's 15,000 workers walked out after rejecting a 6.75 per cent pay increase.

At Jaguar's plant in Coventry union leaders have rejected the company's 21 per cent pay offer over two years. They claim the real value of the offer is 14 per cent which is unacceptable last page 2

Intoximeter win

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court decided that Lord White-law when Home Secretary acted within his powers in approving the Intoximeter 3000 breath machine last year Page 3
Law Report, Page 16



Rebels accept

El Salvador's guerrillas have accepted a proposal made by President Duarte at the United Nations to hold high-level peace talks next week Page 7

Banks unhappy

Several banks are unhappy about the rescue package for Johnson Matthey Bankers organized last week by the Bank of England Page 19

End of the road

The Monaco Grand Prix, which was first held in 1929, has been dropped by the International Motor Sport Federation because of a dispute over television rights Page 24

Leader, page 15

Letters: On Dr Runcie and miners, from Mr J. L. Phillips, and others; teaching English, from Mr B. E. Newton; Chatsworth drawings, from Mr D. M. G. Hirst

Leading articles: Energy policy; Soviet disinformation; EEC fish policy

Features, pages 10, 13, 14

Bringing the political communication gap: The NCB's headline designers, Digby Anderson on school vouchers with a difference, Spectrum on securing a place in the nuclear bunker, Wednesday Page asks, how far have we progressed?

Obituaries, page 16

Mr Geoffrey Bennison, Mr Leslie Goddard

Classified, pages 26-30

La creme de la creme, property

Scargill is one party's hero, another party's villain

Police will not buckle nor the Government crack, says Brittan

Mr Arthur Scargill became the arch-villain at the Conservative conference in Brighton yesterday. The miners' strike was attacking the rule of law, said Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

The miners' strike could be the last battle in the attempt to break the union "shackles" on Britain, Mr Norman Tebbit told a fringe meeting.

Mr Brittan also announced new measures to speed up justice, safeguard the independence of chief constables and provide more money to police the pit dispute.

A leading moderate on the miners' executive, Mr Ray Otley, quit the post in protest at Mr Scargill's attitude to the law.

From Julian Haviland, Political Editor, Brighton

The hero of the Labour Party conference, Mr Arthur Scargill, was yesterday made the arch-villain of the Conservative Party conference, when ministers indicted him as revolutionary whose only real purpose was to destroy the rule of law. There was not a dissenting voice.

The conference, on its opening day at Brighton, acclaimed both Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, and Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, for speeches, the one on policing, the other on energy, of which the climatic passages, targeted on the miners' leader, might have come from the same pen.

Neither minister allowed Mr Scargill or his cause any legitimacy, either political or industrial.

Mr Brittan told the conference that the coal dispute was not an industrial dispute at all. It was not an attack on the National Coal Board or even on the Government, but on the rule of law itself.

The miners' leaders had not concealed their intentions. They did not recognize the law. They were out not to win a dispute but to win power for the bully, power to turn the country into "a poor, shabby, shoddy look-alike of the Eastern block states they so admired".

But Mr Brittan promised that the police would not buckle nor the Government crack. The right of people to go to their jobs would be defended, the cowards who intimidated women and children would be brought to book. "Those who

take on the law of the land take on the British people, and in them they will meet their match", he said. The Home Secretary pledged his party by announcing practical measures of support for the police. Any police authority incurring expenditure for policing the dispute beyond three-quarters of the product of a penny rate would be reimbursed in full by the Exchequer for however long the dispute might last.

Rebel miner battered by hooded gang. Coal slump hits hundreds of schools.

Judgment day for Scargill. Du Cann will fight to keep job 2.

Conservative conference reports.

Coal board tactics.

Leading article, letters.

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Under the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, there would be a new independent check against any attempt by a police authority to suspend a chief constable. Mr Brittan also announced the appointment of more stipendiary magistrates to help clear the backlog of criminal cases arising from the dispute.

He went out of his way to counter the repeated accusations heard at the Labour Party conference at Blackpool last week that the police were the tool of the Government or at least being used for party political ends. The police were not enforcing his orders, he said. They were not the agents

of the Government but of the community.

Mr Walker said of Mr Scargill that his interest lay in the conflict. His only demand was one which no NUM leader had made before and no Labour government had ever thought about, and every pit must be kept going until all its coal was exhausted, no matter what the price of producing it. The strike had no possible industrial justification. It had everything to do with the Marxist challenge to parliamentary democracy.

"We are facing a challenge to our whole way of life," he said, adding that the Government would not sacrifice the struggle of "brave, decent, working miners for the sake of an easy compromise. We will not forfeit the right to govern."

The platform had all the support it could have wanted from the floor. One working miner from Cannock and former Conservative parliamentary candidate, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, was cheered when he said that he would continue to cross the picket line in spite of threatening telephone calls, because he was a supporter of democracy.

The conference showed no sympathy with the misgivings of either the Archbishop of Canterbury or the Bishop of Durham. Mr Walker said that the choice between efficiency or compassion, raised by the Archbishop in his interview with *The Times*, was one where the Tory party had constantly sought a balance.



Mr Leon Brittan yesterday: Coal dispute 'an attack on the rule of law itself' (Photograph: John Manning).

More cash pledged for policing strike Pit dispute may end in breaking union shackles, says Tebbit

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

New measures to speed up justice, safeguard the independence of chief constables and provide more government money for policing the miners' dispute were announced yesterday by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, in the course of a strong attack on the striking miners' leaders.

He told the Conservative Party conference in Brighton that the "Scargill game plan" was to buckle the police and crack the Government to impose Eastern block socialism on Britain. "That is not going to happen."

The Home Secretary set a new and firm limit on the amount that any police authority will have to find from the rates for policing costs arising from the miners' strike.

They will have to contribute no more than three-quarters of the product of a penny rate, which is described by the Home Office as far more generous than the arrangement so far announced. Beyond that, any extra costs incurred in policing the dispute, however long it lasts, will be met in full by the Exchequer.

Mr Brittan said yesterday he was also acting to secure the independence of chief constables. He told the conference that the dispute had shown that they needed further protection against politically motivated acts of spite. Using powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, he would provide a new and politically independent check against any attempt by a police authority to suspend its chief constable. Under the new proposals any such decision will be subject to ratification by the independent police complaints authority.

Mr Brittan announced that proposals are to be introduced for statutory time limits on the period from arrest to the beginning of trial in criminal proceedings. A clash of opinion with Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, was being played down yesterday. Lord Hailsham told the home affairs select committee on April 4: "I myself would not favour a statutory time limit."

Instead, Mr Brittan is following the select committee's recommendation in June that the Government should commit itself in principle to the introduction of time limits on the period from arrest to trial.

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Continued on back page, col 6

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Norman Tebbit said last night that the pit strike could be "the last battle" in the attempt to break the union "shackles" on Britain.

In a personal manifesto for the 1990s, the man most widely tipped as the Conservative leader presented a package of policies which will disturb a number of Cabinet colleagues, and anger his political opponents.

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry told a Conservative conference fringe meeting in Brighton that the way to cut the prison population was to increase rather than reduce prison sentences.

He also said that he would like to see the Rent Act reformed to give greater competition between rented housing and owner occupation; that the National Health Service should become the safety net for those who could not afford adequate private health insurance; and the privatization would give Britain the smallest state-controlled sector, rather than the largest, in the Western world.

But the most marked ingredient in Mr Tebbit's "stimulating brew" was his analysis of the trade unions into the 1990s.

He said that it was not enough to switch resources away from house purchase to equity investment, it was not enough to gear education to the market place and it was not enough to provide tax advantages for investment.

"Unless the ball and chain, the irons and the handcuffs of traditional trades union attitudes are struck off," he said, "we will continue to be handicapped in the race for markets, customers, orders and jobs."

"Now I am hopeful. Perhaps, during the violence and damage of the coal strike, that is a bold statement."

"I'll say nothing of the British Steel Corporation, nor collapsing dock strikes, nor anything about the coal strike, except that in my view, it may well be the last of its kind."

"It may well be the last battle in the struggle between, not Tory governments and working people, but between working people and unrepresentative, politically-motivated, self-interested trade union leaders."

Mr Tebbit said that privatization could help that process by breaking up nationalized industries and devolving de-

cision-making and negotiation to the place of work.

He said his vision of the future included a richer Britain with lower personal taxes and, "the biggest question", a fall in unemployment.

On the issue of crime, Mr Tebbit said: "It happens to be my personal belief that long sentences with their deterrent effect tend to lessen prison populations whereas - short sentences, with less deterrent effect, can tend to increase prison populations and lead to calls for even shorter sentences, and so on *ad infinitum*."

"For example, I don't believe that the sexual drive of men is greater than it was 50 years ago. But the crime of rape has become a great deal more common, as the public's perception of a likely sentence of penal servitude for life to a likely sentence of some months in an open prison."

On the National Health Service, Mr Tebbit said: "I believe a natural consequence of higher personal disposal of incomes should be a willingness to spend more of one's own income on medical services."

Copy of father's crash

Gina Campbell brush with death

By Peter Davenport

In a carbon copy of the accident that killed her father, Miss Gina Campbell narrowly escaped death yesterday as she celebrated setting a world water-speed record.

Her 500hp boat, Agfa Bluebird II, rose in the air at almost 140mph, flipped over backwards and smashed to bits at the National Water Sports Centre, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham.

Miss Campbell, aged 34, who was driving with her father Donald's lucky teddy-bear mascot, Mr Whoppit, fastened to her seat, was thrown clear. She was pulled from the water by the crew of a rescue boat, dazed and shaken, but unhurt.

Back on shore, she said: "When we launched the boat at the weekend someone asked me if I was worried about an accident like the one which killed my father. I said that lightning didn't strike twice. How wrong can you be?"

"When the boat took off from the water like a Concorde and then flipped backwards, I said to myself: 'Father, here I come.'"

"I am very, very lucky to be alive, but strangely, at the time I didn't think I was actually



Miss Campbell with teddy-bear mascot, one of which was with her father when he crashed, and with her yesterday.

going to die. Everything seemed to happen in slow motion and when I landed in the water I just thought: 'Well, I'm not dead.'"

Donald Campbell was killed in 1967 when his Bluebird boat performed an identical backflip while chasing a world record. His body was never recovered.

A film of the accident is one of the most famous television sequences in the world and one that Miss Campbell has seen many times.

Miss Campbell's accident yesterday happened after she

had taken her sponsored £50,000 Formula 1 boat to the water sports centre for a week of preparation for an attempt on the women's speed record to be made at Windermere, in the Lake District, next week. The record stood at 116mph.

After a morning of practice sessions, the weather became perfect and it was decided to make a record attempt, as official timekeepers were there.

Over the measured kilometre, after two runs, the boat recorded an average of 124.35mph, a record. Then

Continued on back page, col 3

Ponting to stand trial on secrets charges

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Clive Ponting, the senior civil servant accused of leaking papers on the sinking of the General Belgrano during the Falklands conflict in 1982, told the police he sent the documents to an MP, because ministers wanted to protect themselves politically and would not answer legitimate questions, Bow Street magistrates in London were told yesterday.

The statement was read out when Mr Ponting, aged 38, and an assistant secretary at the Ministry of Defence, was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court accused of a breach of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act. He is alleged to have sent two papers to Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, last July.

Mr David Hopkin, the chief stipendiary magistrate, was told that after questioning by Ministry of Defence detectives Mr Ponting was cautioned and said of the leaks: "I did this because I believe that ministers were not prepared to answer legitimate questions from an MP about a matter of considerable public concern simply in order to protect their own political position."

At the beginning of the committal proceedings, the court was told that revelation of the two documents had not damaged national security. Reporting restrictions were lifted.

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said one was a memorandum from Mr Legg, representing a division in the Ministry of Defence on rules of engagement against Argentina in the South Atlantic.

The paper was addressed to Mr John Stanley, Minister for the Armed Forces, and was classified as confidential. The

court was told that the memorandum, included an appendix with a draft memorandum for the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee on changes in the rules. The appendix, amended by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, was given to the committee.

The second document sent to Mr Dalyell was a draft of answers to questions Mr Dalyell had himself submitted. The replies were drafted by Mr Ponting as head of a division dealing with naval matters.

Mr Amlot said the draft dealt with the Belgrano's movements, the type of weapon used, messages between the submarine, Conqueror, and Britain. But Mr Ponting had not received permission to pass on information and was "in breach of the confidence in him as a Crown servant."

Mr Dalyell had written to press for answers to questions

Continued on back page, col 1



Mr Ponting yesterday: "Legitimate questions"

Money supply increase delays base-rate cut

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Hopes of a cut in bank base rates to coincide with the Conservative Party conference were dashed yesterday with the announcement of a large increase in money supply last month, and renewed dollar strength against sterling.

There was a rise of 1 1/2-1 1/2 per cent in the sterling M3 measure of money during the September banking month, the Bank of England said. This compared with a 0.7 per cent increase in August and a 1 per cent fall in July.

The rise took growth since the start of the current target period in February to an annualized 10 per cent, at the top of the official 6 to 10 per cent target range.

City economists said the figures were "disappointing", and would probably delay any base rate cut until later this month.

The main feature of the figure was a £1.5 billion rise in bank lending, up £500m on the average for recent months. However, there were distortions arising from "round-tripping," which occurred as companies switched funds between overdrafts and bill finance, and reporting discrepancies, which produced a positive interbank item of about £500m.

Share prices fell back on news of the money supply figures, and interest rates in the money markets rose. The three-month interbank rate, a key determinant of clearing bank base rates, rose 1/8 on the day to 10 1/2-10 3/4.

As well as the disappointing money supply figures, the dollar rose yesterday, notably against the Deutsche mark, recording a three pence rise to DM3.0855. Sterling lost 70 points against the dollar to close at \$1.290

Kenneth Fleet, page 19

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Intoximeter ruling wrecks appeal hope of 83,000 convicted drivers

Hopes of 83,000 motorists of having their convictions for driving with too much alcohol in their blood quashed were set back by a judgment in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court in London yesterday.

It decided that the former Home Secretary, Lord White-law, was acting within his powers in approving the Intoxi-meter 3000 breath test machine last year.

In his ruling, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, dismissed arguments on behalf of two drivers challenging the Home Secretary's actions as "misconceived".

He said the Home Secretary had both the power and indeed the duty to approve such a machine or device as he saw fit.

The court upheld a prosecution appeal against the decision of a London stipendiary magistrate to dismiss a charge of failing to provide a breath specimen brought against Miss Patricia Harrigan, aged 20.

It also rejected an appeal by counsel for Mr. Revd. Henry Hayward against a conviction of driving with excess alcohol contrary to the Road Traffic Act, 1972, as amended by the Transport Act, 1981, imposed by magistrates at Chatham, Kent.

Mr. Peter Archer, QC, for Mr. Hayward, said the Home Secretary had acted outside his powers when he approved the Intoximeter machine in April last year. There was no statutory power expressly given to the minister to approve the device.

Mr. Archer told Lord Lane, sitting with Mr. Justice Stuart-Smith and Mr. Justice Leggatt, that in the absence of amending legislation there could be no proper conviction from the use of the Intoximeter device.

Mr. Archer said that if his point was good it represented an oversight by parliamentary draftsmen which could have been corrected at any time within the past 17 years.

The reason the matter had arisen was the anxiety which had been expressed about the reliability of the Intoximeter machine, which gives electronic print-outs of breath alcohol levels. It had aroused comments in the national press and caused conflict in magistrates' courts.

Yesterday's appeals had been viewed with considerable interest. If the arguments of both motorists had been vindicated, about 83,000 drivers in the country could have taken steps to have their convictions quashed.

After the controversy surrounding the Intoximeter, the Home Office ruled that all drivers who are found by the machine to be over the limit, may elect to take a blood or urine test.

That option was due to end this month, but it has been extended until the new year. During that time it will be monitored by the Forensic Science Service.

Law Report, page 16

Traditional studies hold boys and girls

By Colin Hughes

Most schools are offering subject options to both sexes, but sex discrimination laws have done little to change the choices which boys and girls make on what they study at school, according to research funded by the Equal Opportunities Commission and published yesterday.

The study found that there are as few girls taking up physics and craft subjects as there were 10 years ago, and as few boys venturing into fields seen as traditionally female, such as home economics.

Carried out by a team from the National Foundation for Educational Research, the survey analysed the policy of nearly 200 schools, teacher and pupil attitudes, and focused on a core of 14 schools for detailed case studies, to form the largest and most comprehensive study of sex discrimination in schools yet undertaken.

One in 10 was thought strongly committed to equal opportunities, and one in eight showed signs of "bad practice", according to the research team. They say that local education

authorities had a "poor idea" of what goes on in their schools on equal opportunities.

In mixed schools boys continue to dominate in sciences, except for biology, and girls outnumber boys in office skills. In single-sex schools twice as many girls study physics, and in boys' schools more study biology, but the team believes the difference arises from parental background, and not from the schools being single sex.

Although most teachers supported the principles of equal opportunities, few were trained to recognize difficulties and identify solutions. Slightly more women teachers were sympathetic, but bigger differences were found between teachers of different subjects than between men and women teachers.

Option Choice, a Question of Equal Opportunity (John Pratt, John Bloomfield and Clive Scale, published by NFER-Nelson, Darville House, 2 Oxford Road East, Windsor, Berkshire, £11.95).

Fringe vouchers, page 14

Sea rescue bid failed to save 7

A brave but vain air-sea rescue attempt by a Royal Air Force crew was described yesterday as an inquest into the deaths of seven men from two fishing boats which foundered in the North Sea in May.

Air Lord Master David Allen was lowered into the sea off Flamborough Head, Humberside, and took hold of a fisherman struggling in the water. He was unable to secure the rescue strap, but took a strong grip on him and was winched up to the aircraft.

The attempt by air crew to haul the victim into the helicopter was unsuccessful.

Det Sergeant Ernest Wellburn told the inquest at Bridlington that the sea took the victim from Mr. Allen's grasp and swept him away.

Mr. Allen grabbed a second victim and an attempt was made to land him on a lifeboat.

It became obvious that either Mr. Allen or the victim would collide with the side of the vessel, so Mr. Allen deliberately positioned himself between the victim and the vessel and suffered serious back injuries, Mr. Wellburn said.

But he retained his grip until the victim could be lowered into the sea again. The coroner, Mr. Trevor Green, was told that a lifeboat crew member jumped into the sea and kept the victim afloat until colleagues were able to pull them both on board.

Four men from the Carol Sandra were lost and three men from the North Wind III, which was helping to coordinate the rescue when it too was swamped, also died.

The jury returned verdicts of death by misadventure on all seven victims. The coroner said that the four victims whose bodies were not recovered were presumed drowned. He added that all those involved in the rescue deserved the highest commendation.

Tour operator cuts Greek holidays by 6%

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

There were further shits yesterday in the price war on package holidays to Greece when Sunnied Holidays, reduced its prices for next summer by an average 6 per cent.

This compares with increases of up to 14 per cent by other tour operators.

Some Sunnied decreases are greater, including a 17 per cent cut in Corfu, 14 per cent in Crete and 15 per cent in Athens. But holidays to Lesbos are down only 3.5 per cent and those in Rhodes up by 12 per cent.

What turn the price war will take depends on Intersun Leisure, second largest tour operator in Britain, which is scheduled to bring out its summer, 1985, brochures later this month.

Intersun, like Thomson Holidays and Horizon Travel, the two other big operators, are reported to have been particularly active in buying up accommodation in Greece for next year in expectation of a big switch, by holidaymakers there as the price differential with Spain has narrowed.

Road inquiry told of £30m cheaper route

The public inquiry into the proposed M1/A1 link road was told yesterday that an alternative to the Government's so-called green route, would be at least £30m cheaper.

The planned road, costing £107m, would be 45 miles long between Catthorpe in Leicestershire and Cambridgeshire, cutting through Northamptonshire.

The aim is to improve links between the Midlands and east-coast ports.

There have been more than 1,000 objections against it. The inquiry at Kettering, Northamptonshire, on September 11 and is expected to last six months.

Mr. Richard Parker, a chartered engineer, gave evidence yesterday on behalf of Daventry District Council, one of the objectors. He said using the A45 would save over £30m.

Mr. Parker, a principal engineer with Scott, Wilson, Kirkpatrick and Partners, said there was not a strong technical case for the green route.



The Montego estate: high load capacity.

Seven-seat estate car

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The first all-British estate car for several years was launched yesterday by Austin Rover. Based on the recently introduced Montego family saloon, it is claimed to have the biggest load-carrying capacity in its class, more than 60 cu ft.

Austin Rover dealers are said to be enthusiastic about its prospects. Without a modern estate car in their range, they have been missing sales, since estate cars now account for one in 10 of all cars sold in Britain.

The Montego estate makes its debut at the British Motor Show in the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, next week. Five versions will be sold at prices which are understood to range from £6,400 to £8,500. Two engine sizes are available, the recently modernized 1.6 litre "S" series and the two-litre "O" series.

An unusual feature for a British estate car is the option of a third row of seats in the rear, making it a full seven-seat car.

Grieving fiancé flew 12,000 miles to die

A man whose Welsh fiancée committed suicide flew 12,000 miles on a one-way ticket from Australia to join her in death. Mr. Neil Browne, aged 30, died in a car filled with flames on the eve of the funeral of his girl friend Susan Pritchard, aged 32. He was clutching her silver locket with photographs of them together and his final diary entry on August 20 reads: "Well, I'm here. I'm here."

Miss Pritchard unexpectedly called off their wedding two weeks before it was due.

The deaths of the couple, who had planned to live together in Australia, unfolded at an inquest in Aberystwyth, Gwent, yesterday.

Their four-year relationship

began at a Welsh squash club, although Mr. Browne, who was born in Melbourne, returned to Australia after working in Cwmbran, Gwent.

Miss Pritchard, of Greenhill Road, Sebastopol, Pontypool, Gwent, regularly telephoned him and flew out to meet his parents before arranging a June wedding.

The inquest was told she later telephoned Mr. Browne to say she could not go to Australia, give up her friends and leave her widowed mother, aged 70, and family.

"She was torn between her love for Mr. Browne and her loyalty to her family. She began to develop doubts about life on the other side of the world and seemed to put all manner of

obstacles in the way of going to Australia", Mr. David Bowen, the Gwent coroner, said after hearing statements and evidence from relatives.

Mr. John Price, the dead girl's brother-in-law, said Miss Pritchard, a council payroll officer, bought a wedding dress and sent out invitations, but called at his home to tell him she had changed her mind.

Mr. Browne's attempts to find work in Britain failed and Miss Pritchard became very depressed.

In July, Mr. Browne flew to South Wales for a short visit to reassure her. He returned to Australia alone but kept in touch by telephone.

The night before her death in

August, Miss Pritchard called at Mr. Price's home and broke down in tears, saying she had had another telephone call from Australia. "Why is Neil so kind to me?" she asked. She was later found drowned in the river Usk near Aberystwyth.

The coroner said that he was satisfied that Mr. Browne, a printing designer of Bundorra, Victoria, intended to take his own life before leaving Australia to fly to South Wales for Miss Pritchard's funeral.

Mr. Browne's body was found at New Inn, Pontypool. The couple were cremated and their families had their ashes buried together.

The coroner recorded verdicts of suicide.



Finishing touches: Mr. Ray Hudson, a foundry chaser, renovating 'The Shell Carrier' (Photographs: Dod Miller).

Time and acid rain take toll of Hyde Park statue

The Royal Artillery Memorial at Hyde Park Corner, one of London's best loved sculptural landmarks, has become a victim of acid rain, according to the Imperial War Museum.

Miss Ann Compton, of the museum's Department of Art, told *The Times* that the sculpture was under threat on two fronts: iron and steel fixings holding the bronze statues in place were rusting away, and corrosive air pollution was destroying the supportive relief carvings in soft Portland stone. The carvings "will disappear if prevention action is not taken very soon", she said.

Last week, one of the four bronze statues, known as "The Shell Carrier", was removed by crane to a Basingstoke foundry for repairs, after police in the

station at Wellington Arch opposite noticed it was leaning forward because of rusted fixings.

Traffic vibrations from Hyde Park Corner could not have helped, Miss Compton said. A full restoration of the monument would cost about £30,000 and would involve treating the stone with a stabilizing mixture of chemicals, a technique long in use where cathedrals were similarly threatened.

The memorial was completed in 1925 and was held to be the masterpiece of Charles Sargeant Jagger, a famous sculptor of the day.

In addition to its campaign to save the Royal Artillery Memorial, the Imperial War Museum is to open a five-month exhibition of Sargeant Jagger's smaller works next May.

Acid rain projects, page 5

Dangers in home grown vegetables

By Tony Samstag

A scientist in Birmingham has unearthed some of the most conclusive evidence to date that people who grow their own vegetables in or near British cities are at risk from cadmium poisoning, which can cause kidney damage.

Mr. Christopher Tennant of Aston University's department of environmental health told *The Times* yesterday that maximum cadmium levels in some vegetables he studied were up to three times those found in the Somerset village of Shipham, where a cadmium scare in 1979 prompted a series of epidemiological studies that are still continuing.

The gardens of almost 200 families in the borough of Walsall, West Midlands, were analysed for cadmium contamination and 96 households were monitored more closely. Families were chosen for study only if they grew at least 70 per cent of the vegetables they consumed.

When Mr. Tennant's team measured the quantities of cadmium consumed by the families, the highest consumption was 67 microgrammes a day, perilously close to the 70 microgramme "maximum tolerable daily intake" set by United Nations scientists.

Atmospheric fall-out from industry and careless waste disposal are probably the main reasons for a build-up of cadmium in soil through the years.

Free home offer in council contest

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A former council tenant in Rochester upon Medway, Kent, who is buying his or her home and can answer questions about stamp duty and the mortgage rate, has the chance to win the property in a competition organized by the city council.

If, as seems likely, more than one entrant knows all the answers in the competition, there will be a tie-breaker in which they will be asked to say why they bought their home.

The council has organized the competition in the hope of increasing sales of council homes. It has so far sold 3,500 homes, about a third of its stock.

Mr. Michael Franklin, chairman of the council's housing policy and environmental services committee, said yesterday that its continuing policy was to encourage home ownership. "This exercise is only one of many ways by which the home ownership principle and the means to achieve it can be demonstrated", he said.

The council has set aside £25,000, to cover the costs of the competition and of paying off the winner's existing mortgage.

Entrants must have bought their homes between April and December, 1984, and complete their purchase by February 28, 1985.

Radio change

Radio 4's early morning *Farming Today* programme was cancelled yesterday because its producer, Mr. Allan Wright, failed to receive an alarm call.

The programme was replaced by a stock item on a kibbutz in north Israel.

Boxer banned

Former world middleweight boxing champion Alan Minter was banned from driving for a year yesterday. Minter, aged 33, of Roskerry House, Selsfield Road, West Hoo, Essex, admitted refusing to provide a specimen of breath, and was fined £125 by magistrates in Essex, Surrey.

Inquest barred

No inquest will be held on Herr Hartmut Linser, aged 30, the Third Secretary to the East German Embassy, who was killed when his car hit a lamp post in Hendon, North London, on October 4. Diplomatic immunity was claimed by the embassy.

Hunt stopped

The traditional Boxing Day meeting of the Grove and Rufford hunt in Retford, North Nottinghamshire, has been banned by the Labour-controlled Bassetlaw District Council.

Computer weapon to beat crime

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Police incident rooms, which coordinate investigations into serious crimes, are to be computerized in most cities, at a cost of about £2m. The first will be ready by the beginning of next year.

The new system is called Holmes (Home Office Large Major Enquiry System). The scientific research and development branch of the Home Office has just completed the technical specification.

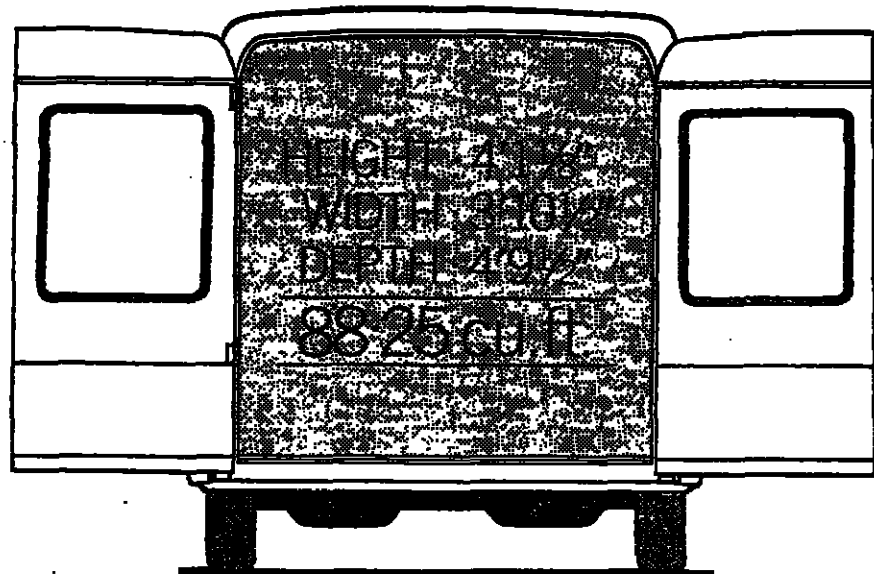
Depending on the system chosen, police forces will use microcomputers at a cost of £30,000 each, mini computers costing between £50,000 and £350,000 and programs at £20,000 a year.

Computer files on individuals will be registered with the official supervising data protection legislation.

The disadvantages of using manually-filled cards were highlighted during the case of the "Yorkshire Ripper". There was speculation that Peter Sutcliffe would have been caught more quickly had the police used computers.

The Micro Repair Club has been established for home computer owners. The service is offered through an annual subscription of £24.95 with Domestic and General and the repairs will be done by Computeraid Services.

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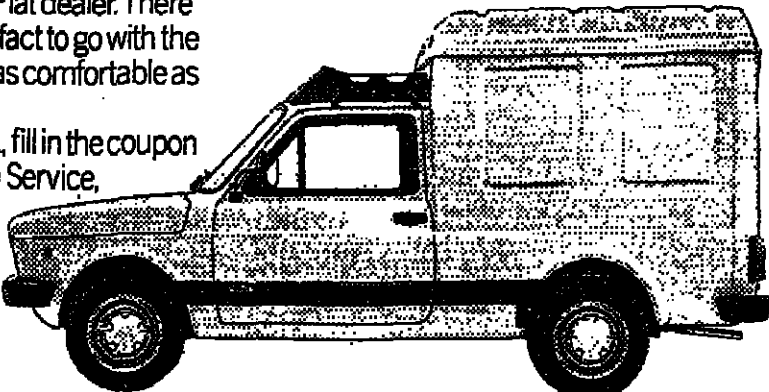
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CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE • Pensions concern • Law and order • Walker's pledge

Treasury to meet extra costs of policing pit dispute, Brittan says

Reports by Alan Wood, Robert Morgan, Derek Bennett, Howard Underwood and Anthony Hodges

A firm limit on the money that any police authority will have to find for the rates for policing cost of the miners' strike was announced by Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, when he replied to the debate on law and order at the opening of the Conservative Party conference in Brighton yesterday.

He also announced a new independent check against any attempts by police authorities to suspend their chief constables and legislation to enable a limit to be imposed on the time taken before cases come to trial.

Mr Brittan, who received a standing ovation, promised that the police would continue to receive the Government's total support. For all the violence, every miner willing to cross picket lines and go to work had been able to do so. The police were not enforcing his order; they were simply enforcing the law of the land.

He challenged Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, to tell his party firmly and unequivocally that the law was to be obeyed and to tell Mr Arthur Scargill that unless the National Union of Mineworkers' leadership stopped the violence and intimidation, they would immediately and forever forfeit all Labour support. Only by doing that could any condemnation of violence carry credibility.

Mr William Coates, Meriden, moved the motion that: "This conference believes that the Government must reconsider the whole problem of organized violence and intimidation and calls on the Government to implement in full its manifesto promises on violence, law and order."

In the past seven months, he said, the country had witnessed scenes of violence no one would have believed possible, but it was the disgusting, underhand intimidation of working miners and their families which had been so disturbing.

The Government had pledged to protect the weak and strengthen the rule of law and order. "I believe we have failed to honour this commitment," he said to loud applause. "We have let the moderate miners down and we have let the police down."

Mr Tom Butcher, Gedling, a retired policeman, said crimes and acts of violence had never

been so high, the public had never been so afraid and morale in the police had never been so low.

It is time to leave behind the views of the so-called experts and respond to the gut feeling of the vast majority of the people of this country," he said. "Reform is very expensive and a waste of time. Young offenders commit the vast majority of crimes and the best reform is cheap - the ageing and maturing process. In the meantime young people are best controlled not by reform but by punishment."

"We must allay the fears of the public by showing them we mean business. Ninety per cent of the people in this country want capital punishment re-



Mr Eldon Griffiths

stored and we should give them that," he said to prolonged applause.

Mr Anthony Gilberthorpe, Gloucester, said that the Prime Minister has shown that his determination could beat ten thousand miners' pickets. Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP for Bury St Edmunds, and parliamentary adviser to the Police Federation, said the hard left had been running its anti-police campaign for most of the past 15 years. The Labour conference was the first public display of the militants' battle plans to win power by the back door.

The miners' union was being exploited by politically motivated men who wanted to use it as a battering ram against the Government.

Undermining the rule of law by alienating the public from the police was well advanced. The official Labour Party had been cajoled into supporting the rule of the mob and "Scar-benn", or was it "Bennigill", compared the police to the Gestapo. "When Mr Scarbenn

likens our police to beasts who run the extermination camp I get very angry," he said.

There was no room for politics in policing and no place in the police for politics. It was simply not good enough for Mr Kinnock to condemn violence on both sides. Nor would it do to talk of the brotherhood of man - not even if you were the Bishop of Durham while expounding the cause of class war.

Any suggestion that the police themselves are on the side of Conservatives should be avoided. "They are not and they must not be. The only side the police are on is that of the Queen and the law."

Mr Roy Newman, Rother Valley, a former miner, said people were living in fear. Wives could not go out and children were abused at school. That was happening today and they sat there and said "shock, horror". The Home Secretary should do something.

Mr Nicholas Bennett, Gillingham, said he opposed the motion because he believed they already had the laws on the statute book which they ought to be using.

Mr Brittan, replying to the debate, said he had news for the people who massed together with makeshift weapons, engaged in violence, arson and intimidation and thought the police would buckle and the Government crack. That was not going to happen in Britain today (applause). The right of people to go to their jobs would be defended, the cowards who intimidated women and children would be brought to book and the law of this land would be upheld.

Peaceful picketing was one thing. The presence of thousands of people on a picket line could have only one purpose. It was to intimidate and coerce, to stop people going about their lawful business, to use fear to smash freedom.

For seven long, violent months thousands of pickets had attacked the police line, but the police had held their line. For all the violence those brave miners willing to cross picket lines and go to work had been able to do so.

One thing was clear about the police action in the dispute. It was conducted with the consent of the vast majority of the law-abiding members of the community (applause). The Government's task was not to direct the police, but to support them.

There would now be a definite limit to the amount of money that any police authority would have to find from the rates for the policing of the dispute (renewed applause). That limit would be three-quarters of the product of a penny rate.

Beyond that any extra cost incurred in policing this dispute, for however long it lasted, would be met by the exchequer in full.

They would not let left-wing police authorities undermine police operations. South Yorkshire had tried to do that twice. He would continue to take every action necessary to ensure that the chief constable's independent position was not jeopardized. The dispute had shown that chief constables needed further protection against politically motivated acts of spite. Using the powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill he would now provide a new and politically independent check against any attempt by a police authority to suspend its chief constable.

Violence must not be allowed to pay. Nor would it. Not just because of the police or the Government, but rather because those who took on the law of the land took on the British people. And in them they will meet their match," he concluded to loud applause. The motion was carried.

Today's debates

This morning's debates at conference will be on rates, defence and drug abuse. This afternoon, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will reply to the debate on the economy and taxation. There will also be debates on health and local government.

Delegate fined after damaging 'submarine'

Huw Leslie Shooter, a delegate to the Conservative conference, was fined £200 yesterday after admitting damaging a model Trident submarine built by CND members on the beach opposite Brighton conference centre.

Shooter, aged 24, a trainee insurance secretary, of Burnt Ash Hill, Lewisham, south London, went to the beach with friends the previous night. CND had planned to float the submarine as an anti-nuclear protest.

Afterwards, Shooter, who was also ordered to pay £100 compensation and £50 costs, said that he had strong views about CND but hoped his Conservative Association at



Government's real test, by Gummer

The real test for the Government would come when the violence in the miners' strike was over and when the strike was at an end, Mr John Gummer, chairman of the party, told delegates. When the tyranny had been tamed the Government must show itself without rancour, ready and eager to rebuild and to heal.

That, he told the conference in his address, would be even more difficult than being firm in its determination now to uphold the right to hold fast to principle.

Where Arthur Scargill had shown the unacceptable face of trade unionism the Government must help men to build again their loyalty to a democratic and representative NUM. Where Mr Scargill had torn communities apart, the Government must seek to heal and mend.

In Blackpool they had witnessed the coronation of King Arthur and his usurpation of

the mantle of leadership. Therefore it was the deputy leader of the Labour Party, Mr Neil Kinnock, who had sought to reaffirm his opposition to violence. But Mr Kinnock has not told it straight. He had not put his leadership on the line.

The takeover by the left and the cowardice of the Labour moderates was the real challenge to Conservatives. The many whose traditional Labour loyalties had been strained to breaking point were looking for a lead, and only the Conservative Party could give it.

The party must win as members those who had voted for it right across the nation, including the poor, the old, blacks, trade unionists and the unemployed. Labour's politicising of the police should not push Tories into allowing a national issue to develop into a party squabble.

'We will not let miners down'

The Government had created the conditions for an expanding, low-cost, high-productivity, high-pay coal industry, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, declared. To all miners, strikers and non-strikers, he promised a better future with unparalleled investment, with better pits, machinery and conditions.

As the industry became more profitable and prosperous, pay packets would reflect the new prosperity and as long as the Government had air to breathe, Mr Arthur Scargill would not destroy the democratic institutions of Britain.

Mr Walker received a standing ovation and during the debate, so did the wife of a working miner, Mrs Irene McGibbon, of Dover, who is national organizer of the miners' wives' Back to Work campaign.

Mr Derek Ridge, Newark, successfully moved a motion calling on the Government to embark on a vigorous programme to restore the pride and confidence of all those working within the coal industry, and to ensure the mining community

is given every assistance to change and adapt itself to modern needs and thereby obtain the benefits of becoming strong and self-sufficient. Mrs McGibbon was given a standing ovation at the end of a speech in which she said she was proud of her working miner husband.

When the bishops suggested that she should compromise the right to a peaceful occupation of her home, the right to pass along the Queen's highway and the right to work, she had to admonish them: "You are wrong."

The Conservative Party had recognized the realities of mining in a much more practical way than its opponents had ever done, Mr Walker said. The coal industry faced an exciting future but only if it could produce good quality coal at a price its customers could afford. The industry was hampered by a few loss-making pits which gobbled up scarce resources.

Throughout the dispute Mr Scargill had not demanded better wages, better investment, better community programmes.

Leading article, page 15

Backing to protect pensions

Nothing was more important in helping pensioners than that the Government's achievement in controlling inflation should be maintained, and the Government meant to do this, Mr Antony Newton, Minister for Social Security, told the conference. He said that nothing more quickly undermined people's planning for retirement, or their security when retired, than rapidly rising prices.

The Government was demonstrating its conviction that a crucial part of securing the future welfare of the retired must be still further to broaden the opportunity for people to build their own pensions from their own savings.

The debate was opened by Mr Michael Jack, Southport, who moved a resolution calling in a motion on the Government to develop further its social policies to ensure that those who had given a lifetime service to society could look forward to retirement free from economic and social worry.

He said the conference had to show that retirement was not the beginning of the slippery slope to deteriorating living conditions. They had to show that care and concern about pensioners was not the preserve of the Labour Party, Jack Jones and even some bishops.

Mr Newton, Minister of State for Social Security, said after a long review of the government's welfare achievements that in the dispute involving staff at the Newcastle computer centre they were not prepared to accept the deliberate continuation of an unnecessarily expensive pattern of shifts. The Government had a clear duty not only to taxpayers but to claimants to ensure economy in administration.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Policy 'not always well presented'

Following the Conservative's remarkable success in last year's general election, the media felt it was time to cut the party down to size, Lord Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and deputy leader, said when replying to a debate on public relations.

He admitted that there had been times when policies had not been well presented. But they had to recognize their mistakes and build on their successes.

They had to remember the value of repetition and repeat again and again the simple message about the miners' dispute. If there were no mass pickets, no violence on the picket lines, and no intimidation of working miners in their homes and on their way to work, there would be no need for a large police presence, nor would there be one.

Those organizing the mass picketing and violence should call it off instead of hypocritically blaming the police for doing their duty.

The conference carried unanimously a resolution urging the Government to "smarten up its public relations" and to explain its policies lucidly.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

The Conservative conference displayed once again yesterday its greatest strength and its greatest weakness.

The greatest strength it has shown down the years is that under pressure it usually presents a united face to the world in support of the party leadership. So it was not really surprising that there was an inclination to rock the boat by seriously questioning the Government's tactics over the miners' strike.

But the greatest weakness that the conference has traditionally displayed is a failure often even to reveal and certainly to debate thoroughly the critical disagreements within the party. There are two major criticisms of the Government's handling of this strike that are made by a good many Conservatives who have no shred of sympathy for Arthur Scargill. Neither criticism received much of an airing at Brighton yesterday.

One of the principle complaints is that the Government has left too much of the case against the NUM to be made by the chairman of the coal board whose expertise lies in management not public relations.

War of attrition

The very success of Mr Peter Walker's speech yesterday lent weight to that criticism. If the full range of the Government's case had been deployed more often with such skill there might have been less embarrassment from the bishops.

The other main complaint is that too heavy a responsibility has been placed upon the police. The Government has declined to use its new legislation so as to bring the civil law into play. Nor have the long-standing powers of the criminal law been deployed so as to remove the abuses of mass picketing.

As the representatives yesterday cheered the mainly well-merited criticisms of violence and intimidation on the picket line, many must often have been asking themselves whether this kind of conduct has to be accepted nowadays as inevitable in a major strike in this country.

Is there no alternative to asking the police to take the strain day after day in a war of attrition? Is the Government's much-vaunted legislation inappropriate in those cases where it is most needed?

Only once or twice did such questions emerge in the course of debate in the conference hall. A statement from the National Association of Conservative Graduates pointed out that "the regulation of picketing by a civil law... depends all too often on the tactical choices of the employer."

The statement went on to call for a new law making it a criminal offence for there to be more than six pickets at each entrance of a place of work, while acknowledging that such a reform would not be an answer to be organized mass violence seen in the miners' strike.

Condemnations of violence

Perhaps there is indeed no valid alternative to a war of attrition in those instances where a militant union is prepared neither to compromise nor to show restraint. But the danger of having to rely upon such a strategy is that it can easily run counter to the deep instinct in this country which is dubious of awarding any policy very far if it results in civil conflict.

It is because they fear this instinct, not because they have an alternative economic strategy to offer, that the bishops have become so troublesome.

The nature of the challenge presented to the Government by Mr Scargill's tactics has been recognized from the first by Mrs Thatcher. "What about the violence?" she would ask time and again when ministers were offering reassuring analyses in the early days of the strike.

The conference heard many condemnations of violence yesterday, but it did not really come to grips with the question as to whether there was any better way of dealing with it. This is a question that will have to be debated seriously, not least by a governing party that has attached so much importance to reforming the law on trade unions and always gives such high priority to preserving public order.

Labour last week failed to ask themselves whether they were not placing too much blame upon the police. The Conservatives yesterday failed to examine sufficiently whether they were not placing too heavy a burden upon the police.

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"SEFTON", one of the horses that survived the bomb outrage on 20th July 1982, is now enjoying retirement in the beautiful Chiltern countryside.

The Home of Rest for Horses reaches its Centenary in 1986. To mark this milestone of continuous equine welfare work, and as a tribute to Sefton, this Registered Charity has decided to underwrite a grant of up to £300,000 to fund the building of a modern equine veterinary hospital at the Royal Veterinary College, London.

IF YOU CARE for the welfare of all horses, and if you wish to be associated with this project your financial help will be sincerely appreciated.

Send your donation (cheques/POs made out to: Sefton Equine Hospital Fund) to The Home of Rest for Horses, Dept. T.T. Westcroft Stables, Speen Farm, Arlebury, Bucks HP17 0PP. All donations will be acknowledged if requested.

Sefton Equine Hospital Fund

NHS charges defended

By Anthony Beris, Political Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health, said yesterday that it was time the Government stopped feeling guilty about putting up health service charges.

He told a conference fringe meeting that Britain was the envy of other countries for the value for money obtained from the National Health Service.

His own "good health league" showed that Britain spent a smaller proportion of its gross domestic product on health, than 10 other developed countries. "But in terms of any index you can make on the quality of health care, mortality rates for different diseases, the standards of health, which the generality of the population enjoys, we come fourth, and a good fourth, not far behind Sweden, the Netherlands and Switzerland," he said.

Britain's efficiency record in health was so good that Mr Clarke was constantly asked by health ministers from other countries how the NHS could manage to deliver such high

standards when spending, in real terms, was only increasing at a rate of 1 per cent a year.

Speaking of future financing methods, Mr Clarke said that all the alternatives had been firmly rejected by the Government. "The serious runners don't run," he said. But he added: "At long last, we have stopped feeling quite so guilty about charging policy. Successive governments have charged for dental services, optical services, and prescription charges since 1951."

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, emphasized at a fringe meeting yesterday the importance of government-industry cooperation in developing the energy industry. He told a meeting of the National Association of Conservative Graduates that he foresaw tremendous potential for British industry in the overseas development of energy, particularly off-shore drilling for oil and gas.

He pointed to the success of the off-shore supplies office in assisting British companies to supply the North Sea oil and gas industries.



Deep in thought: Sir Geoffrey Howe (left) and Lord Whitelaw in Brighton yesterday (Photographs: John Manning)

Electricity board projects aim to reduce acid rain levels

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Four research projects which could cut acid rain levels were announced yesterday. The projects, disclosed by Sir Walter Marshall, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, are aimed at removing sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides from coal-fired power stations.

The schemes are divided between modifications to existing stations, to test new methods for eliminating nitrogen oxides, and design studies for power stations using revolutionary types of furnaces for producing cleaner electricity.

The modifications will be made at Fiddler's Ferry, a large, modern coal-fired power station on Merseyside. The new designs of more efficient, clean types of stations would be based on either a Pressurized Fluidized Bed Combustor or the British Gas-Lurgi Slagging Gasifier.

Sir Walter, in a vigorous defence of the board's activity, was highly critical of the House of Commons Select Committee on the Environment, which in a report last month recommended urgent measures to reduce sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides from power stations.

"Last year we were being urged to remove sulphur from our effluent because people thought sulphur was the cause of widespread forest damage in Germany. This year scientific opinion is swinging towards ozone (produced by the action of sunlight on hydrocarbons from vehicles and nitrogen oxides) as the principal culprit."

"Acid rain is a woolly definition covering a range of pollutants that require very different control measures. We already know how to reduce sulphur emissions through the fitting of flue gas desulphurization plant. The cost would be high. Fitting FGD to a large power station is £130m to £150m, or put another way the capital and running costs would add £8 to the cost of every ton of coal used at the station.

"The research we have been doing over the last four years leads us to suspect that cuts in



Sir William Marshall: Four schemes.

New divorce laws: 1

Petition after a year ends court discretion

The first important reforms of the divorce laws come into force on Friday. Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at the changes and how they will affect divorcing couples.

About 170,000 divorcing couples will be affected each year by important changes in the divorce laws. For the first time it will be possible to petition for divorce after only one year of marriage. At present, couples must wait three years, unless either party can prove he or she is suffering "exceptional hardship" or that the other's behaviour is "exceptionally depraved".

But proving exceptional hardship or depravity led to bitterness and acrimony in court hearings and courts had difficulty in determining exactly what the phrases meant. The courts' discretion, therefore, has been replaced with the absolute one-year bar.

Under the new laws, contained in the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act, 1984, the ground of divorce, irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, stays the same. Courts will have to be satisfied that one or more of these factors apply: adultery, unreasonable behaviour, desertion or separation (for two years if the parties consent; five years if not.) What will change however is the factors courts take into account and the emphasis placed on them, when deciding financial and property matters. It is likely that the courts will look at the conduct of some existing maintenance orders under the new law and decide those should be brought to an end.

The new provisions end the automatic right of a wife to the so-called "meal ticket to life" from her former husband. The old duty of courts to try to put the parties in the same financial position that they would have been had the divorce not occurred will be scrapped: it

was widely held to be impracticable, impossible to achieve and often undesirable.

Now courts will still look at each case on its merits and consider all circumstances such as income, earning capacity, property and financial resources of each party (both present and potential), financial needs and obligations of each; standard of living enjoyed by the family; age of each; length of marriage and any disability of either.

But in addition, courts must now as a first consideration look at the needs of any children. Second, they must put more emphasis on encouraging the spouses to become independent and self-sufficient where that would not cause "undue hardship".

At present divorcees can go to courts to apply to have maintenance orders varied in the light of changed circumstances.

Second, courts will also take into account the conduct of spouses where it will be "incapable to disregard it". The Government says that merely restates the present law, under which courts consider conduct that is "obvious and gross". But critics fear the provision may lead to more disputes in court about whether conduct should or should not be considered.

Critics also fear that wives may suffer under the new laws. But officials in the Lord Chancellor's Department emphasize that a husband will still have a duty to a wife where the marriage has been long, the wife does not wish to remarry and has no way of supporting herself.

Tomorrow: The cost

Fortified British embassy reopens

From Our Correspondent Beirut

The British Embassy in west Beirut reopened yesterday as workmen continued to increase fortifications.

Mr David Miers, the British Ambassador, and a heavy of bodyguards inspected the site on Monday.

There were reports that the embassy was closed last week after it was threatened with attack. A Western military official, who asked that his name not be used, said that after the lorry bomb attack on the United States Embassy annex in suburban Ankar on September 29 "the Americans and several European nations - including Great Britain, West Germany and others - were told they were possible targets."

Lebanese workmen have installed nine huge concrete barriers known as "dragon's teeth" and a steel-bar gate across the road leading to the building in which British diplomats have two floors



Beirut stronghold: Mr Miers, his right hand still bandaged from his injury in the US Embassy explosion last month, inspecting the new British Embassy fortifications with armed guards.

and security at those installations is being increased."

Yesterday labourers were whitewashing the barrier blocks and setting up forms for pouring a concrete wall alongside the building's courtyard. A one-man guardhouse was under construction next to the gate.

One woman among the 14 people waiting to visit the consular section said she was from India and desperately needed a visa to visit an ailing sister in London. "It was not possible to apply last week," she said. "I am so worried, and I hope I can arrive in time."

Although the embassy was open for business, there were no British diplomats there yesterday morning. Lebanese employees said: "A British guard near the second-floor visa section told me to 'come back later in the week'."

Telephone calls to the embassy in Nakkash, east of Beirut, were unanswered.

Heavy Soviet reinforcements reported in Kabul

From Our Own Correspondent Delhi

Determined Soviet moves to defend Kabul from increasing mujahidin attacks were reported by Western diplomats in Delhi yesterday. At the same time the diplomats described unconfirmed accounts of an approach made by the Russians to Ahmad Shah Mahsood, leader of the rebels in the Panjshir valley, north of the capital, for a renewed truce.

One diplomatic mission here also repeated an unconfirmed account of heavy Soviet reinforcements being flown into Afghanistan from the Soviet Union. As many as 70,000 troops are said to have arrived, and a full division accommodated in the Khair Khana encampment in the city.

The movement of three armoured columns to positions along a rough line across the south of the city was described

by the diplomats. Heavy armoured traffic has been heading south towards the Logar valley, where the rebels are thought to have been basing their attacks.

The south-eastern suburb of Shewaki was reported to have been heavily bombed. The diplomats also have reports of Soviet troops being withdrawn from other areas of the country and transferred to Kabul's defences.

The rumoured negotiations

between Mr Mahsood and the Russians may be part of the Soviet attempt to clear their own lines of communication with the capital. According to two sources, the Russians have offered to withdraw to below Bazarak in the valley and to stop all bombing there. In return, Mr Mahsood was asked to allow free access along the road from the Soviet border town of Hairatan to the Salang valley.

Three Bahamas ministers resign

Nassau, Bahamas (Reuters) - Mr Arthur Hanna, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and two other Bahamas cabinet ministers, Mr George Smith (Agriculture) and Mr Kendal Nottage (Youth Affairs) resigned yesterday.

The cabinet office announced the resignations after allegations at a special commission of inquiry probing drug smuggling and corruption.

Japanese sweets poisoner at large again

From David Watts Tokyo

Japanese prefectural and national police held an emergency meeting yesterday to decide how to tackle the "21-faced mystery man" who is putting poisoned sweets on supermarket shelves.

Cyanide-laced sweets manufactured by one of the country's leading confectionery companies, Morinaga, have been put in supermarkets in four prefectures in an attempt to extort a little more than £300,000 from the firm.

A total of 800 Morinaga salesmen fanned out all over Japan yesterday in an attempt to track down those responsible. The *Nom de plume* refers to an old Japanese tale about a mysterious man with 20 faces.

Police believe this may be the same group that tried to extort money from an Osaka confectionery company earlier this year after a kidnap.

It appears that the same typewriter is being used to type poison notes being stuck on Morinaga sweet packets.

Morinaga says it has no intention of removing its products from the market because to do so would encourage similar crimes in the future. Already, however, about 1,000 shops of the 10,000 that stock Morinaga products have taken the sweets off their shelves.

The "mystery man" says another 30 boxes of tainted sweets will be deposited

Aboriginals 'found dead' near A-test

From Tony Duboulin Melbourne

The bodies of five Aboriginals were found near an Atomic bomb test site in South Australia in 1956. The Royal Commission into British nuclear test in Australia was told in Brisbane yesterday.

Mr Terry Toom, a former soldier, said he found the bodies of two adults and three children while on a mail run with five other soldiers. He described the bodies as being all skin and bones and said they were lying under a tree.

Mr Toom, who lives in the Brisbane suburb of Keperra, said he took part in operations involving British troops at Maralinga and Emu in 1956.

After his commanding officer was told of the discovery, he believed bulldozers were moved into the area.

He told the commission that members of the Seventh Independent Field Squadron were taken to the Marooch bomb crater shortly after an explosion and ordered to open bunkers.

Peking praises novel about wife-switching

From David Bonavia Peking

The main theoretical organ of the Chinese Communist Party has praised a new novel about wife-switching and capitalist enterprises in the countryside.

Red Flag carried the review of *Households in Jinowu village*, in which two couples divorce and change partners. The book is by Jia Pingao. Until now, divorce, to say nothing of switching wives, has been played down in officially-approved Chinese fiction.

Red Flag is considered one of the most conservative and dogmatic political journals.

It also praised descriptions of peasants' efforts to enrich themselves by borrowing money and starting such ventures as silk-cow cultivation and noodle-making.

It concluded: "The happiness of the affluent family penetrates even the sound of their toilet bucket."

Eight Pinochet critics for trial

Santiago (Reuters)

Eight prominent opponents of Chile's military Government were indicted yesterday for trial under internal security laws for organizing protests last month against President Pinochet, court sources said.

Detention orders were also issued. Those indicted include Gabriel Valdes, president of the Christian Democrats and a former Foreign Minister; Enrique Silva Gimma, head of the Radicals; Mario Sharpe, leader of the Social Democrats; and Manuel Almeyda, president of the leftist Popular Democratic Movement coalition.

Cabinet quits in Bolivia

La Paz (AP) - The Bolivian Cabinet resigned on Monday night to facilitate a government reorganization aimed at alleviating the country's serious political and economic problems.

In a letter to president Siles Zuazo the cabinet said that "recognizing your decision to reorganize the government in order to introduce adjustments in the economic, political and social fields, we resign to leave you in complete freedom to reorganize your Cabinet."

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Seatbelt law 'has failed to cut death toll'

The seatbelt law has had no real benefits in keeping death and injury off the road, a chief constable says. Mr Brian Hayes, chief constable of Surrey, reports that 18 more people have been killed and 252 more injured on the county's roads in the first eight months of this year than during the same period in 1983.

Mr Hayes says the figures are inconclusive as to the precise reason for the increase.

He adds that the reduction of machine capacity available to learner motor cycle riders has probably reduced casualties.

School closed after asbestos is discovered

More than 250 children were sent home from school yesterday after an asbestos find.

Workmen carrying out renovation on the heating system at College Town Junior School in Sandhurst, Berkshire, discovered that the hot-air system was lined with asbestos. The headmaster said staff were called for an emergency meeting.

Last night work started on ripping out the asbestos. The operation is expected to take 10 days, during which time the pupils will be kept away from the school as a precaution.

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Husain receives Mubarak with troops, bagpipes and royal baby

Amman (AP) - President Mubarak of Egypt arrived here yesterday to an embrace from King Husain, who defied headline Arab states two weeks ago by restoring diplomatic ties with Egypt.

The trip to Jordan is the first by an Egyptian President since Egypt signed the 1979 peace treaty with Israel, an act that prompted 17 Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization to break diplomatic relations with Cairo.

It also is Mr Mubarak's first official state visit to any Arab country since he became President in 1981. He visited Saudi Arabia in 1982 to offer condolences to the Royal Family on the death of King Khalid, but this was not regarded as a state visit.

Jordan announced on September 25 that it would be the first of the 17 Arab states to restore full ties with Egypt. King Husain, whose action was praised by Syria and Libya, praised Egypt's recent support for Arab causes and cited a need for unity in dealing with Israel.

Mr Mubarak and King Husain reviewed Jordanian troops, who marched past the two leaders to the tune of "Scotland the Brave", played by Jordanian military bagpipers. Mirage F1 jets, their wings tipped with rockets, roared low over the runway in salute.

King Husain and his American-born wife, Queen Noor, met Mr Mubarak. The Queen

carried the infant Princess Inan. The two leaders left the airport in a motor procession along a route lined with Egyptian and Jordanian flags.

There was heavy security all over Amman. Troops with sub-machine guns patrolled the streets.

Mr Mubarak was accompanied by his wife and a delegation including the Foreign Minister, Mr Esmat Abdul Meguid, and other Cabinet ministers.

● CAIRO: President Mubarak's trip to Jordan marks the first in what his aides hope will be a series of state visits to other Arab countries that once rejected Egypt but which now feel there can be no unity without the largest Arab state (AP reports).

Egyptian officials have made clear that they expect Iraq to be the next country to restore formal ties.

● JERUSALEM: Israel's Foreign Ministry yesterday protested at a reported statement made in Jordan by President Mubarak's top political adviser, Mr Osama al-Baz. Israel contended that Mr al-Baz had violated the peace treaty with Israel by calling the Jewish state a threat to world peace (AP reports).

A sharply worded statement by the ministry described the remark as "a severe and cynical violation of the spirit of Camp David and the peace treaty". Israel was seeking clarification.



In step: King Hussein and President Mubarak reviewing Jordanian troops on the arrival of the President at Amman's military airport.

Peres goes shopping for aid

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Mr Shimon Peres, Israel's new Prime Minister, met President Reagan yesterday to discuss further United States aid for his country's troubled economy, and the situation in Lebanon as well as prospects for peace in the Middle East.

Mr Peres arrived here on Monday on his first visit as Prime Minister of the month.

He held talks with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on Monday and yesterday morning met Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary.

Mr Weinberger is to attend a

Nato nuclear planning group meeting in Stresa, Italy, this week and go on to visit Tunisia, Egypt and Israel for talks.

Mr Peres's meetings here coincide with the three-day visit of President Hosni Mubarak of Jordan after the recent Jordanian resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt.

President Reagan is standing by his Middle East peace initiative of September 1, 1982 which Mr Shamir's Likud Government had turned down, but Mr Peres, as opposition leader, had indicated was worth examining.

Mr Peres is to meet Mr Mondale in New York today. He held talks with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on Monday and yesterday morning met Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary.

Mr Weinberger is to attend a

find extra cash for Community running costs this year.

A supplementary budget of £600m was agreed by the council last week, meeting the Parliament's case. Britain, however, made it clear it would not pay its £120m share of this budget unless the Parliament first released the frozen rebate.

M Jean-Pierre Cot, chairman of the budget committee, said yesterday there was no need for a vote of the full house to release the money, although the final decision would have to be taken by M Pflimlin.

The rebate, if released, could push up the value of sterling on the foreign exchange.

Apology to Ferraro for witch (or bitch) jibe by Mrs Bush

From Bailey Morris Washington

On the eve of their televised national debate, the American vice-presidential candidates have become embroiled in a controversy over remarks made by Mrs George Bush, the vice-president's wife.

Mrs Bush was forced to apologise publicly to Ms Geraldine Ferraro, her husband's opponent, after newspaper reports that she referred to the Democratic challenger as either a "witch or a bitch".

The incident occurred on a flight to New York for the traditional Columbus Day Parade which both candidates attended. In response to questions about the Bush family's wealth and the low rate of tax paid last year by the Vice-President, Mrs Bush attempted to deflect the criticism by referring to the \$3.8m (£3.04m) net worth recently disclosed by Ms Ferraro and her husband.

Mrs Bush said that she and her husband did not attempt to



play down their wealth, disclosed as \$2.1m, "not like that \$4m - blank - and I can't say it - but it rhymes with rich".

Later, after widespread comments that rich rhymed with bitch, Mrs Bush disclosed that she had telephoned Ms Ferraro to apologise and tell her she never meant to call her a "witch".

The controversy erupted even as reporters bombarded the Bush campaign staff for information about the allegedly overtaxed "janitor" and "chauffeur" in the Vice-President's service who were elevated to prominence by Mr Walter Mondale's comments the presidential debate on Sunday night, attacking Mr Reagan's tax programme.

Two from Hillary team die on Everest

Katmandu (Reuters, AP) - Two Australian climbers died on Mount Everest yesterday - the third time death has struck a Himalayan expedition led by Mr Peter Hillary, son of the mountain's first conqueror.

Nepal's tourism ministry said Mr Craig Nottle fell to his death during a final bid for the top, and Mr Williams-From, who was 28 yesterday, fell while looking for him. Mr Hillary whose father, Sir Edmund Hillary, last week was named New Zealand's High Commissioner to India, has led two previous Himalayan expeditions in which fatal accidents occurred.

Meanwhile, Mr Bart Vos on Monday became the first Dutch climber to master Everest, without the help of oxygen.

Golden Temple handed to Sikhs

Delhi (AP) - The Government, trying to improve relations with the Sikhs, returned control of the entire Golden Temple complex in Amritsar to sect leaders and withdrew the last of its security forces, United News of India reported.

An unspecified number of police and paramilitary troops left three buildings in the complex.

Banker charged

Lisbon (Reuters) - Dona Maria Branca dos Santos, the 74-year-old grandmother known as "the people's banker", was in a women's prison yesterday charged with fraud and criminal association in connexion with her multimillion dollar unofficial bank.

Lashes for liars

Bahrain (Reuters) - Four Danish mechanics in Saudi Arabia spent 87 days in jail and received 75 lashes each for lying about the death of their Arab cook, the Danish Ambassador in Jiddah said.

Hostages fail

Washington (AP) - The US Supreme Court barred 14 of the 50 Americans held hostage by Iran for more than a year from suing the Iranian Government for damages in US courts.

Sudan strike

Nairobi - Government workers in Juba, southern Sudan, have been on strike for a week because they have not received backdated pay.

Pretoria yields on school demands

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African Government yesterday extended an olive branch to rebellious African schoolchildren by announcing the reopening tomorrow of six schools closed last May, and by making other concessions to student demands.

All six of the secondary schools, which have about 6,000 pupils, are in the Atteridgeville township outside Pretoria. They were closed after persistent disruption and boycotts of classes and had not been due to reopen before the start of next year.

Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the Minister for Cooperation, Development and Education, who is in charge of African education also announced that democratically elected student's representative

councils would be established at all secondary schools under his department. This covers all schools outside the tribal reserves.

Such councils have been demanded repeatedly by African pupils, and the Government's refusal hitherto to agree to them has been one of the main grievances of student organizations during the many months of unrest in African schools.

The Government had argued previously that students could be allowed to elect their own councils only at university level.

Dr Viljoen said that pupils would not be permitted to take over the governing of their schools, but it was essential that they had a greater say in their

affairs. He gave warning, however, that the councils must restrict themselves to educational matters.

About 130,000 African pupils, about 8 per cent of the African school population, are still playing truant, most of them in the townships along the river Vaal, 40 miles south of Johannesburg, where serious rioting took more than 50 lives last month.

Meanwhile, Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, has announced that troops deployed in support of police in Soweto and some other African areas have been withdrawn.

He said this was because the unrest eased and not because of criticism

EEC committee agrees to UK rebate release

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

Britain's frozen EEC rebate of £457m should be released, the European Parliament's budget committee agreed yesterday in Strasbourg.

Members are to be asked today by M Pierre Pflimlin, president of the parliament, if they agree to this. He will be able to sign the order releasing the money if there is no call for a vote.

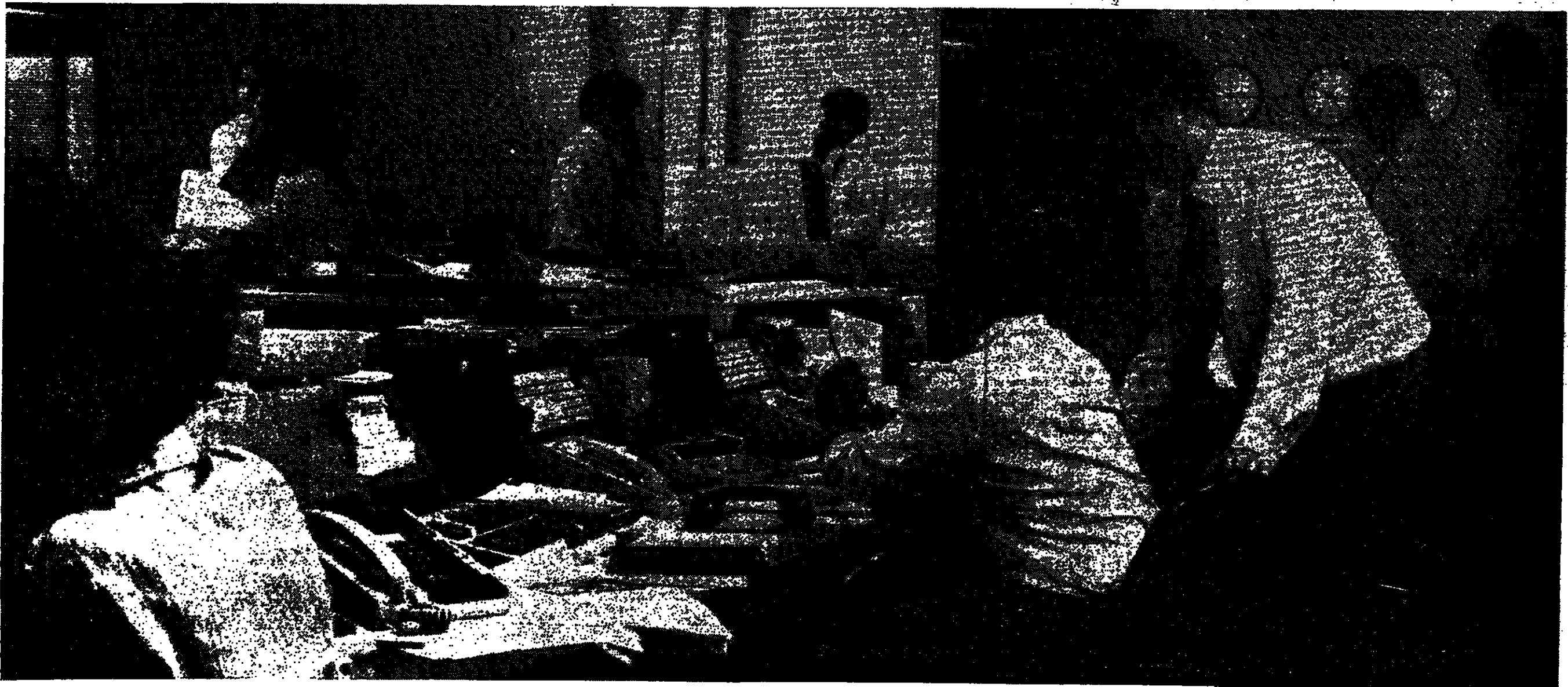
The budget committee of the old Parliament did agree in July that the money should be released, but this was overturned by the newly-elected Parliament, which continued to hold the money until the Council of Ministers agreed to

find extra cash for Community running costs this year.

A supplementary budget of £600m was agreed by the council last week, meeting the Parliament's case. Britain, however, made it clear it would not pay its £120m share of this budget unless the Parliament first released the frozen rebate.

M Jean-Pierre Cot, chairman of the budget committee, said yesterday there was no need for a vote of the full house to release the money, although the final decision would have to be taken by M Pflimlin.

The rebate, if released, could push up the value of sterling on the foreign exchange.



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Guerrillas accept Duarte olive branch

El Salvador's guerrillas have accepted a proposal by President Duarte to hold peace talks at the highest level next week. Should the meeting go ahead between governments and rebel leaders, it will be unprecedented in El Salvador's five years of civil war.

The left-wing Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front announced on one of its clandestine Radio Venceremos stations yesterday that its leaders agreed to take part in the proposed talks, scheduled for Monday in the guerrilla-controlled town of La Palma, which is in the mountains of northern El Salvador, 45 miles from the capital.

In response to President Duarte's offer, made unexpectedly on Monday in a speech before the United Nations General Assembly, the FMLN leadership said it wanted to talk both with the President and officers of the armed forces high command.

Radio Venceremos said there should be a six-mile radius military limitation zone around La Palma on the day of the talks, to which, the broadcast said, four representatives would be sent: two leaders of the military FMLN and two of its political diplomatic wing, the Democratic Revolution Front.

Observers believe this could yet prove an obstacle to the talks taking place, given that President Duarte said on Monday that he wanted to talk only to the FMLN leaders, whom he considers to be the real power in the rebel front.

The rebels also said in their broadcast that they wanted as

From John Carlin, San Salvador

mediator in the negotiations President Belisario Betancur of Colombia, who recently signed peace accords with his own country's guerrilla movement. Agreeing with President Duarte, the FMLN said it wanted the national and international press to be present at the talks to lend "trustworthiness" to the proceedings.

FMLN-FDR forces contacted in Mexico City emphasized concern about security arrangements for the proposed talks and, generally, said they had some reservations about the sincerity of President Duarte's

motives. The rebels, like El Salvador's extreme right, regard Señor Duarte as a man possessed of messianic delusions, who loves to be in the limelight.

Rebel spokesmen in Mexico were concerned that President Duarte might have chosen the UN setting to pull off a *coup de theatre* whose end was more self-dramatization than an earnest desire for serious negotiations.

They were mystified as to why otherwise President Duarte should have chosen this moment for talks, especially when he had turned down an offer of dialogue "without preconditions" made by the

FMLN-FDR just after the general elections in May.

A prominent right-wing business leader in San Salvador, who declined to be identified, said he suspected President Reagan may have been behind President Duarte's offer of talks. It was timed to coincide with the run-up to the US elections and was designed, as the business leader said, to deflect any criticism Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic challenger, may have made of the White House's aggressive military policies in Central America. If that is the case, the business leader said, it was "a master move".

The powerful, right-wing National Private Enterprise Association surprisingly welcomed President Duarte's initiative, but said the rebels must not be invited to share power in the Government, and that they should be only given the chance to enter the political electoral process.

The US Embassy in San Salvador said the same things, while officially welcoming the proposed talks.

The Archbishop of San Salvador, the most conciliatory figure in El Salvador in recent years, said he was "happy" at President Duarte's proposals, but said, as the rebel spokesmen did, that the La Palma meeting must be the first in a series of negotiations aimed at hammering out El Salvador's complex and long-standing social and political problems.

● **REBEL CLAIM:** The broadcast by the rebels said Señor Duarte's announcement was in response to a "private



Peace offer: Señor Duarte addressing the UN on Monday.

letter" the FMLN had sent the President on May 18 this year. It also said the Archbishop of San Salvador, who acted as an intermediary, carried the message (AP reports).

The agreement to talk comes amid US claims that the guerrillas are losing ground.

Señor Duarte's only condition for the talks was that the participants be unarmed. Previously he has insisted that the guerrilla movement put down its arms before talks could start. The agreement to talk comes amid US claims that the guerrillas are losing ground.

French food group cuts prices for the poor

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French political limelight has suddenly shifted away from rather esoteric technical subjects, such as proportional representation, political cohabitation, and referenda on referenda, to the increasing problem of what has been dubbed the *noirceaux pauvres*. Poverty is "in", and everyone is jumping on the bandwagon.

The latest to do so is the Centres Leclerc, one of the largest and most successful supermarket chains in France, with more than 500 outlets. The chain has just announced a series of measures to help the *noirceaux pauvres*, including the sale of basic foods, such as milk, butter and sugar at cost price, special discounts on all products for the unemployed, and meals for 10 francs (85p).

M Edouard Leclerc, president and founder of the chain, had originally announced that food would actually be given away free to those who were hungry. But it was quickly realized that it would be too difficult to distinguish between the truly needy and the professional scroungers.

Instead, food will be given either free or at a considerably reduced rate, to the charitable organizations.

The problem of the growing ranks of poor people is nevertheless real. Unlike Britain, there is no financial safety net in France for those in genuine need.

Coup leaders will stand trial next week in Grenada

From Christopher Thomas, St George's, Grenada

Eighteen men and a woman accused of murdering Maurice Bishop, the former Prime Minister of Grenada, several Cabinet ministers and others, are due to stand trial in the island's capital on Tuesday.

All pleaded not guilty before the Grenada Assizes yesterday. Conviction for murder carries a mandatory death penalty.

The accused include Hudson Austin, who styled himself as a general in the Grenada People's Revolutionary Army, and Bernard Coard, the Deputy Prime Minister in Mr Bishop's Cabinet. The so-called People's Revolutionary Government was overthrown by the United States-led invasion of the Caribbean island on October 25 last year.

Six days earlier Mr Bishop was ousted in a coup headed by Mr Coard and Mr Austin. Mr Coard's wife, Phyllis, is among those accused of murder.

Mr Bishop, who aligned his Marxist regime with Cuba, died during the coup in confused circumstances in a half of gun fire along with Union White-man, the Foreign Minister; Jacqueline, Cref, Education Minister; Norris Bath, Housing Minister; and Vincent, Noel, leader of the Grenada General Workers' Union.

The exact number of other people killed in the coup has never been established.

The trial comes at a time of unaccustomed political activity in Grenada in the run-up to a

general election on December 3. It is likely to improve the chances of the Grenada National Party, a new centrist alliance of three political groupings.

The case, which is expected to reveal the depth of involvement of the Bishop regime with Cuba, is likely to lessen the



General Austin: headed coup against regime.

Impact of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement, which has Cuban links.

Scores of witnesses are expected to be called by both sides during the trial, which is expected to last at least six weeks.

It should for the first time clarify what happened on October 19 - the day of the coup - and may also shed some light on what actually happened to Mr Bishop's body.

Solidarity men sued for £500,000 funds

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

In an unprecedented move, Poland's pro-government trade unions have decided to sue two underground Solidarity leaders for the return of 80m zloties (over £500,000) of union funds. The Government spokesman said here yesterday.

The court case seems set to usher in a bitter round of feuding between official unionists and supporters of the clandestine Solidarity opposition.

Just before martial law was declared on December 13, 1981, Wrocław Solidarity activists, acting on a tip off, withdrew the whole of the Solidarity funds for the Lower Silesian region.

These funds were then probably used to subsidize the underground struggle against General Jaruzelski, financing the printing of leaflets and taking care of relatives of interned or arrested trade unionists. The Solidarity free trade union was officially banned on October 8, 1982 - before it was officially suspended - and the new trades unions were allowed to acquire the property of all dissolved unions.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the Government spokesman, told reporters that a civil case had been opened against two regional Solidarity leaders: Mr Jozef Pinior and Mr Piotr Bodnarz - in an attempt to reclaim the funds.

Mr Pinior is currently serving a two-month jail term imposed by an administrative court after he laid flowers on August 31 to mark the fourth anniversary of the birth of Solidarity. Mr Bodnarz is seriously ill in hospital.

Mr Lech Walesa, the chairman of Solidarity, issued a statement to commemorate the banning of Solidarity two years ago. "Solidarity still exists as an organization, it simply cannot act officially", he said. "We only demand pluralism, that is the possibility to act in accordance with the will of trade unionists. This is a right supported by the International Labour Organization convention No 87, which was ratified by the Polish Government."

Official newspapers said yesterday that more than 4.6 million Poles had joined the new trades unions.

Rifkind to break ice

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office will announce shortly that Mr Malcolm Rifkind, a Minister of State, is to visit Poland next month. It will be the first ministerial visit since martial law was introduced there three years ago.

It will be the "ice-breaker" in relations between Poland and Western Europe which has continued to show its disapproval of Poland's treatment of supporters of the banned

Solidarity trade union. Martial law was lifted in the country last year.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Signor Giulio Andreotti, the foreign ministers of West Germany and Italy, are also planning visits to Warsaw later this year.

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister who never gave Poland the cold shoulder in the first place, is due there later this month.

Kremlin's chiefs meet this month

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet Central Committee is to meet in extraordinary session by the end of this month. Soviet and East European sources here have confirmed. But there are indications that the plenum will discuss policy issues rather than make leadership changes, although personnel changes are not ruled out.

Mr Vadim Zagladin, a senior party official, yesterday confirmed during talks with visiting French journalists that the Central Committee was to meet before its regular November session and indicated the theme would be the state of Soviet agriculture.

Mr Viktor Afanasyev, the editor of *Pravda*, told Japanese journalists the plenum could also deal with personnel changes, but denied that Mr Chernenko's position was at risk. He said Mr Chernenko was in good health and working.

Observers said agriculture was a pressing issue after a series of bad harvests, but that to convene the 300-member Central Committee this month and then again in November suggested that other matters might be decided.

Unconfirmed reports of the plenum first surfaced two weeks ago, giving rise to suggestions that there might be a Politburo reshuffle.

A Central Committee plenum is normally held twice a year, on the eve of the spring and winter Supreme Soviet sessions. It decides policies which are then rubber-stamped by the 1,500 Supreme Soviet deputies.

Flights hit by strike in Iceland

Reykjavik (AP) - Pickets blockaded the gates of Keflavik international airport yesterday, delaying international flights for four hours, as a civil service strike kept much of Iceland paralysed for the fifth straight day.

No progress was reported after a brief meeting between Government negotiators and representatives of the 17,000-member Federation of State and Municipal Workers demanding wage rises of up to 30 per cent.

Coal crisis

Moscow (AEP) - Soviet coal stocks are inadequate for both industry and private homes this winter and the situation in the energy sector is "tense", *Pravda* said.

Test tube twins

Berlin (Reuters) - East Germany's first test tube babies, twin boys, were born here on Friday. Two more East German test tube babies are expected in the next two months.

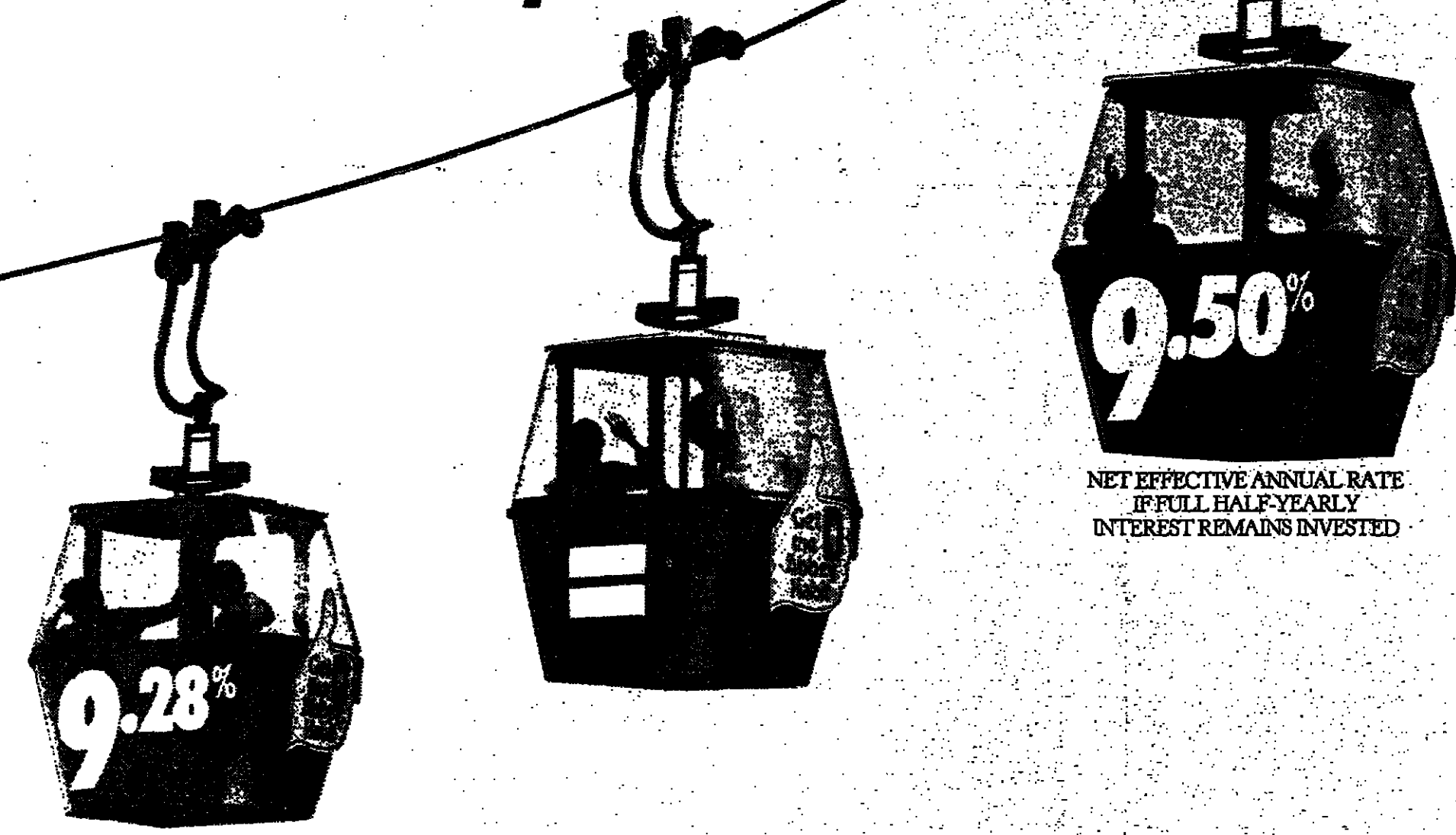
Steel strike

Lisbon (Reuters) - Portugal's state-owned steel industry was paralysed yesterday by a 24-hour strike, the second in two months to protest against the dismissal and disciplining of workers.

Snakes alive

Rennes, France (AFP) - Small children were forced to flee their school in the Breton village of Trouschet when it was invaded by 80 snakes.

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Iraqi envoy reprimanded over Britons' deaths in Exocet raid on tanker

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Iraqi ambassador was summoned to the Foreign Office in London to hear a formal protest over the attack on a supertanker in the Gulf in which two British officers were killed.

Dr Abdul Wahbi Al-Qasbi, the master of the ship, and the junior second engineer, were killed.

The British were named last night as Chief Engineer Ulo Voss, of Coulsdon, Surrey and Second Engineer Clive Donaldson, of Denny, Stirlingshire.

They were among six who

died and nine who were injured when the 114,000-ton Liberian-registered World Knight was hit by an air-launched Exocet missile as it was approaching the Iranian oil terminal at Kharg Island.

Three other British officers, the master, chief officer and the junior second engineer, were unharmed.

The World Knight was said last night to be at anchor off the Iranian port of Bushehr after the fire caused by the attack had been extinguished. The ship is expected to be towed elsewhere for damage assessment.

British protested to Iraq last month when three British divers were killed in attack on a West German supply ship.

Monday's raid was the first in the Gulf for three weeks.

● **MINE HUNT ENDS:** Five British minehunters which had been working with other navies in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea have finished their task and are expected to leave for home next weekend.

French and American teams which had been helping Egypt to sweep the area after 18 mystery explosions which started in July, have already gone.

The Royal Navy ships which are now clearing up at the end of the operation discovered one Soviet-made mine last month. The Libyans are suspected of being responsible for laying the mines, but have denied it.

Low Gulf losses please insurers

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Despite the losses in Monday's attack on the World Knight, shipowners and underwriters have been amazed at the comparatively low casualty rate from missile hits on ships in the Gulf.

Of more than 80 ships hit by Exocets or other missiles since early 1981, only two have been completely destroyed. Nearly half the hits have not resulted in serious fires and explosions and in three quarters there has been

Missile attacks	83
Total losses	32
Tankers hit	15
Serious fires and explosions	44
Fatal incidents	21
Fatalities	68

no loss of life. Sixty-eight seafarers have now lost their lives in more than four years of hostilities - fewer than the number of ships hit.

The reasons for this are beginning to emerge after intense study by shipping and defence experts. They are:

1. Modern tankers are of extremely robust construction, with skins of high-tensile steel over an inch thick.

2. Most laden tankers in the Gulf carry crude oil rather than refined products. This is not only far less flammable, but so viscous that it slows down and softens the impact of the missile.

3. Modern tankers are fitted with "inert gas" fire protection systems, preventing the formation of a flammable mixture.



Changing her tune

The Chinese opera singer Ma Li Liang, better known as Hung Hung, denouncing communism at a press conference in Taipei yesterday, her first public appearance since she defected to Taiwan earlier this year.

President Chiang Ching-

kuo called the Sino-British agreement on Hongkong a fraud.

Cabinet officials said Vice-Premier Lin Yang-kang would head a government committee to protect Taiwanese interests in Hongkong.

González mediation secures two-year pay deal for Spain

From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid

Senor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, yesterday signed a two-year "social compact" with captains of industry and Socialist-led trade unions. The compact, the result of months of difficult negotiations, is to last until 1986.

The accord provides for limited wage restraint and is intended to stimulate private investment in order to create more jobs.

Last week, the Prime Minister had to intervene in the negotiations personally. Although he succeeded in saving the negotiations from breaking down, he could not avoid compromise on some important issues.

While employers' representatives spoke yesterday of a "new realism" in the Socialist Government's approach to the economy, some observers here questioned the practical results of the compact.

The Communist-run workers' commission did not join the accord and said they would mobilize the workers against some of its provisions.

The employers and the union failed to reach agreement on the key issue of hiring and firing workers under the present rigid labour laws of Spain and decided to leave the problem in abeyance.

The Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organizations (EOE), and the Socialist-led General Union of Labour

(UGT) will now prepare proposals to put before the Government over the next six months.

Senor José Cuevas, CEO's new president and one of the signatories of the compact, said the Government has promised new labour legislation but Senor Joaquín Almunia, the Minister for Labour, who negotiated the compact, denied Communist claims and promised that Spain will never have dismissals without guaranteed compensation.

The main part of the compact provides for wage increases of between 5.5 per cent and 7 per cent next year and between 4.5 and 6.5 per cent in 1986.

By cutting the contributions made by the employers to social security, tax concessions on investment and a promise not to increase either direct company or personal tax levels, Senor Miguel Boyer, the Economics Minister, hopes to stimulate the creation of new jobs.

But there are no lavish promises in the compact of the kind made by the Socialists in their 1982 election campaign and experts doubt if the official forecasted growth rates of the gross national product will allow the creation of new jobs.

On the other hand, the Government has promised the trade unions to extend unemployment benefits to cover up to half the population by 1986.

Saragossa papal visit marks New World link

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The Pope will make a 16-hour visit to Saragossa today on his way to Santa Domingo to underline symbolically Spain's contribution to the evangelization of the new world, as part of the five-hundredth anniversary celebrations of the discovery of America.

But the Pope, who is to make two speeches, one this evening, and a second tomorrow morning before flying on to Central America, will also have an opportunity to pronounce on controversial topics like abortion and religious education on which Spanish Catholics and the Socialist Government have clashed.

The Pope made a 10-day visit to Spain in 1982, delaying the trip until after the October general election won by the Socialists. At that time, he moderated his tone except for a condemnation of all abortions.

The Government has since put on the Statute Book laws to legalize abortion under certain circumstances, and on freedom of education, which would give priority to improving state education over subsidizing church-run schools.

Both laws have been taken by the Opposition before Spain's constitutional court.

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia will be at Saragossa airport this evening to welcome the Pope.

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Prague haven: The waiting goes on for 140 East German refugees behind the embassy's shuttered doors.

Embassy refugees wait for Honecker concession

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

East German refugees and their children were seen by television viewers here walking in the gardens of the West German Embassy in Prague on Monday, but no progress appears to have been made in talks to secure their emigration to the West.

The Bonn Government maintained silence on the delicate negotiations with East Berlin, but the situation yesterday looked increasingly intractable. Conditions for the 140 or so people believed to be in the embassy are becoming barely supportable, but the East German Government is thought to have been warned by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, not to make any concessions to Bonn. In the wake of the public disagreement between Moscow and East Berlin earlier this year, the issue is being seen as a test of East German intentions towards West Germany.

Mr Gromyko held talks with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, on Monday, during which they condemned the "activation of revanchist forces" in West Germany and spoke of the strain this caused in relations with Warsaw Pact countries. Referring obliquely to Herr Honecker's abandonment of his conciliatory line towards Bonn, a joint statement called for the need to coordinate foreign policy.

Bild newspaper, which has been following the Prague

Embassy crisis closely, maintained yesterday that East Berlin had made the passage of the refugees to the West conditional on Bonn making building alterations to all its embassies in Eastern Europe to prevent further escapes.

Czechoslovakia, the only country East Germans are able to travel to freely was tightening controls at the border and turning away travellers suspected of trying to reach the Prague Embassy.

The Czechoslovak police who blocked access to the baroque embassy building near Prague Castle over the weekend have been withdrawn.

West German television has carried interviews with some of the refugee families who were waiting near the shuttered doors to the embassy, and showed pictures of the iron railings through which families squeezed their children before climbing back over the gardens at the back.

West German security guards are understood to be patrolling the embassy grounds to stop a repetition.

Before leaving for China Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he and his Government were doing everything possible but could not say anything in public. Bonn has said the only way the pressure to emigrate from East Germany could be reduced would be for the Government in East Berlin to ease travel restrictions.

Child refugees starving to death in Zaire

Geneva (AP) - The plight of about 30,000 Angolan refugees in Zaire is so bad that "100 per cent to the kids are dying", according to a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

He said almost half of the Angolans in the camps of Zaire remote Shaba region are children. Most of them are suffering from "kwashiorkor," a disease which robs the body of vitamins and causes bloated stomachs and skin sores.

"It is tragically simple - you get sick, you die," Mr Michael Burton, the spokesman, said.

Recently-arrived refugees had told him they were fleeing from a new push by Unita rebel forces into northern Angola.

The commission's emergency assistance programme cannot supply food and medicine in time.

He said 175 tons of corn had recently arrived in Lubumbashi, but transportation problems would delay distribution to the refugees, until mid-November.

Chun demands late apology on Rangoon bomb

Seoul (AP) - President Chun Doo-hwan demanded yesterday that North Korea admit responsibility and apologize for the bombing attack on his entourage a year ago in Burma, saying it was "a treacherous, warlike and uncivilized crime."

The demand came in a statement marking the anniversary of the bombing in Rangoon, which missed President Chun but killed 17 South Koreans, including four Cabinet members, during his official visit to Burma. Four Burmese journalists also died in the blast on October 9 last year.

A monument for the 17 bomb victims was also unveiled yesterday in a memorial service attended by bereaved family members, members of the cabinet and foreign diplomats.

President Chun's criticism came after communist-ruled North Korea shipped tons of food, textiles and construction materials two ago to aid the pro-West South after it was battered by a typhoon.

How Taylor Woodrow built a worldwide reputation



BAHRAIN The Sheraton complex. Client: The Heirs of H.H. Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, Amir of Bahrain. Architects: Hotel & shopping centre—Rader Miletto Associates, Office tower—Design & Management Services. Project Management: Universal Exchange Corporation.

LONDON International House, part of the Taylor Woodrow development of the World Trade Centre at St. Katharine-by-the-Tower—London's first private investment in urban renewal.

U.S.A. Windrush Bourne, a condominium project at The Meadows, Sarasota, Florida, a 4,000 home resort community being developed by Taylor Woodrow Homes Limited.

LANCASHIRE Main civil works for Heysham Phase 2 Nuclear Power Station for the Central Electricity Generating Board. Consulting Engineers: Nuclear Design Associates for National Nuclear Corporation. Quantity Surveyors: E C Harris and Partners.

NORTH SEA Project Management Services for the Thistle 'A' oil platform. Client: BNO.

MALAYSIA 156 bedroom hotel and shopping complex adjacent to Terminal 1 of Kuala Lumpur's Subang International Airport. Client: Kumpulan Fima Berhad. Architects: Akitek Kesatuan in association with Kume Architect-Engineer of Tokyo. Project Managers: Urus Bina. Consulting Engineers: Tahir Wong Sdn Bhd. Quantity Surveyors: Juru Ukur Bahan Malaysia.

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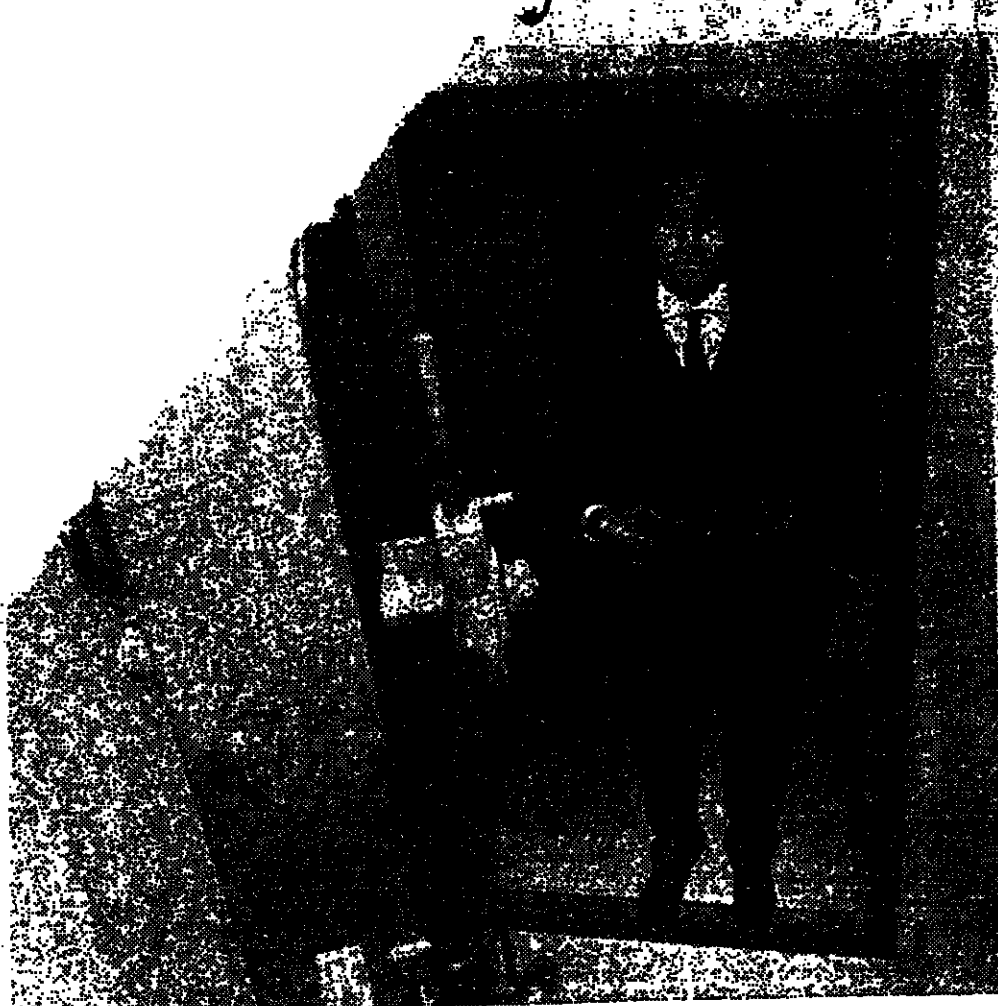
full potential, through free enterprise and teamwork.

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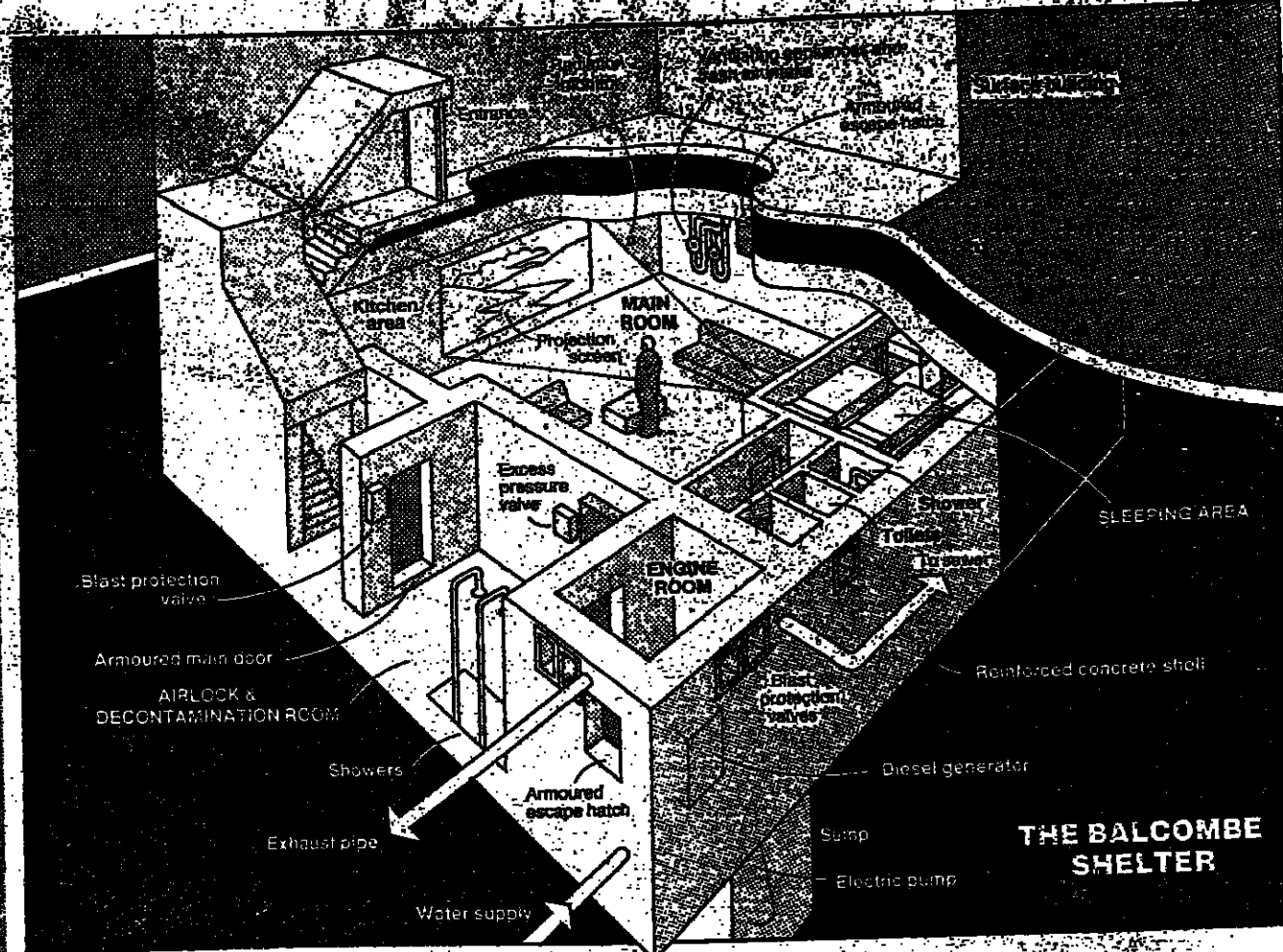
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ECTRUM

ans meets the ma... to life after doomsday?



Looking for more than money: Mr Emin in his ark



Home comforts in the holocaust: The shelter in detail

...not
...people
...ensure
...the base
...aid to
...side
...ain after the
...ount of small
...etails. Thus, the
...shelter have been
...wide enough to
...clcher bears easy

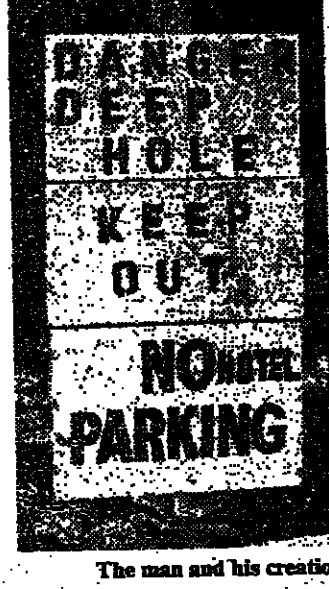
...ly, he would like to have
...w his garden in Balcombe,
...sex. He put another adver-
...ent in the *British Medical*
...ournal to see who was
...interested in joining.
...Replies came from two
...anapists, a neurologist and
...more than one surgeon. One of
...them said: "There is nothing so
...useless as a dead surgeon". Mr
...Emin took the point.
..."We have nearly a full
...complement," he says, "but I
...am not sure they fit the criteria.
...When we advertised it was to
...see if there was a market. There
...is nothing attractive about
...people with money who merely
...want to be looked after. We will
...be advertising again for people
...with skills. If you advertised a
...place for £5,000 and someone
...said, 'Here is my £5,000', I
...wouldn't take it that easily. Mr
...Emin would first see what the
...applicant could do. Was he
...helpful? Did he realize he might
...be killed by people wanting to
...come in?"

He wants his team to have
...mechanical, agricultural and
...horticultural skills, among
...others. The first few members
...he would pick himself, then let
...them choose the rest. Though
...he has a private pilot's licence
...and drives a Rolls-Royce, Mr
...Emin is modest. "I'm a builder
...and innovator, not captain of
...an underground submarine."
...He would not want to be in
...charge of the Balcombe bunker
...when it comes into use.
...He wants the shelter to be run
...by a committee, but says there
...should be someone chosen with
...authority capable of overruling
...a decision and intervening if
...temper rises.
...One of the more difficult
...policy decisions only Mr Emin
...can take is how many of his
...enormous family he should
...reserve places for. He thinks
...that with luck, he could fight

numbers to 25 of the most
...immediate, favouring the young
...and healthy. He is also offering
...six places to local people - one a
...farmer, the other a woodman -
...and their families.
...Mr Emin becomes mysteri-
...ous when asked about the
...woodman, but says the man
...knows the district well and
...could help to keep out un-
...invited guests.
...That could be difficult. Mr
...Emin says he knows of one man
...already who has said he would
...be prepared to get a gun and kill
...to gain entrance to the shelter, if
...he was not chosen. Would
...shelter folk fire back? "We
...might have guns for shooting
...rabbits," Mr Emin says, "but as
...for shooting people, God
...forbid."
...Instead, he wants to put a
...fortified house above the now
...completed shelter structure.

with armoured shutters to let
...down behind windows and
...steel-strengthened oak door.
...The house would serve as a
...doomsday ante-room, where
...people on the guest-list could
...wait during the growing crisis.
...Then they would go down 20
...steps past a 10in thick door,
...Swiss-designed, like the rest of
...the key equipment - escape
...hatches, ventilators and filters.
...After watchmaking and bank-
...ing, the Swiss are famous for
...shelter-making. The guests first
...enter the decontamination
...chamber, where one of two
...showers in the shelter is to be
...installed and radio-active dust
...can be washed off. Two diesel
...engines provide power for
...electric light, hot water, pumps,
...air-conditioning, cooking and
...refrigeration.
...They enter what Mr Colin
...Croft, chairman of the Feder-

ation of Nuclear Shelter Con-
...sultants and Contractors, calls a
...de luxe shelter. He says of Mr
...Emin's standards: "You could
...get a Mini or a Rolls-Royce. He
...is in the Rolls-Royce game."
...The main living room,
...where guests will spend
...most of their time, is
...already fitted with a
...tasteful £3,000 hardwood ceil-
...ing. Glass fibre behind the
...sheets of plastic steel decorating
...the wall prevents condensation
...and helps acoustics. A carpet
...has yet to be laid, but there is
...wiring for quadrophonic sound
...and Mr Emin has plans for the
...screening of pictures to remind
...people of what the outside
...world looked like before they
...arrived.
...To help sleep, the purest air
...circulates in the bunkroom,
...where there is room for 25 at a
...time. In shifts, there are two
...lavatories. Water comes from a
...spring-fed well.
...How safe is the shelter? Mr
...Emin claims that one mega-
...ton bomb hitting the ground
...two miles away would shake
...and bodily move the shelter but
...not damage it. The 2ft thick
...ceiling weighs 150 tons, and the
...top of the roof is one metre
...below the ground level. The
...lagged walls are a foot thick.
...The concrete of the structure is
...reinforced with steel.
...To keep in touch with other
...survivors, the shelter will be
...fitted with radio receivers and a



The man and his creation: Mr Emin with his shelter under construction in the garden



Why nuclear shelters are booming

The recent television
...programmes have prompted a
...surge in demand for private
...nuclear shelters. There are
...probably about 800 throughout
...the country, not including do-
...it-yourself shelters provided by
...individuals for themselves from a
...range displayed by the Home
...Office in 1981. A revised edition
...of *Protect and Survive*, the
...government civil defence booklet,
...is expected to include updated
...shelter design. The Home Office
...is to ask councils to survey

buildings suitable for communal
...protection.
...Public interest has also been
...captured by *The Defence Diaries*
...of W. Morgan Petty, edited by
...Brian Bethell, a satire which tells
...how he turns his home into a
...nuclear-free zone, and takes over
...responsibility for his own
...security. The diaries have sold
...10,000 in hardback so far. *The*
...*Journal of Practical Civil Defence*
...provides more serious guidance.
...A bi-monthly, its 5,000 circulation
...is said to be rising.

Hot gospel from the Siberia superstar

The waiter told us coffee could
...not be served before 10am.
..."It must be a socialist hotel,"
...Vassily Aksyonov's eyes
...twinkled and he snuffed a laugh
...into his unkempt walrus mon-
...stache as though the joke were a
...secret.
...In a plaid shirt Aksyonov,
...now aged 51, looks the success-
...ful novelist - his most important
...work so far is published this
...week in Britain.
...In the Soviet Union he was a
...sixties superstar, the voice of
...the Pepsi generation who
...echoed the beatnik and hippy
...rebellions in the West. His
...besides loved rock and roll, used
...English phrases, took off and
...travelled rather than climb up
...the rungs and through the hoops
...of the system.
...Now he could be mistaken for
...an adapted hippy, a character
...from *The Big Chill*. But
...Vassily still has generation
...Z's '60s feel, now is a
...solid, rugged, rugged with the
...icy winter of the childhood.
...His father was a writer of
...fiction, a professional writer on the
...radio, when Stalin's winter
...began. Both his parents were
...killed in a labour camp in
...Siberia when he was three.
..."The police came and put
...seals on some of our rooms.
...They just closed off part of our
...house. I was left with my
...grandmother and nanny. I
...wasn't told where my parents
...had gone."
...He was taken to an orphan-
...age for children of the im-
...prisoned and remembers being
...taken by train with two other
...children in a sealed compart-
...ment with a KGB nurse.
...He was rescued by a brave
...uncle who had already lost his
...job as a result of his father's
...disgrace, and brought up by his
...aunt. He did not meet his
...mother again until he was 16
...and they then lived together in
...internal exile at Magsadan in
...Siberia. They had not been told
...whether his father was alive or
...dead until the end of the war.
...He shook his head and
...laughed as he recalled that
...father was still a convinced
...party member when he was
...released. "He thought Stalin
...had made a mistake but he
...begged me, 'Don't touch Lenin'.
...He met him several times



Aksyonov: Proud to be called Christian and liberal

was deprived of his membership
...of the writers' union.
...Between 1969 and 1975, he
...wrote *The Burn* - a mystical
...account of his generation and
...the camps. He made just four
...copies which he circulated
...among friends. "Most of all I
...wanted to get one out of the
...country because the police were
...after it. Other authors just dug a
...hole and buried their manu-
...scripts."
...In 1980, the book was
...published in Italy and Aksyonov
...was pushed out of the Soviet
...Union. "They just asked me
...how many adults I could take
...with me." His father didn't want
...to go and his young son was tied
...up with his studies, so he left
...with his second wife and her
...daughter and went to a teaching
...post in America. Four months
...later, his citizenship was re-
...moved and he is now stateless.
..."If he had stayed," I would
...be a gay body but as a writer
...I feel he died."
...Now he writes in Russian but
...speak English and will write in
...English in the West. He is currently

working on a novel about the
...Russian exiles.
...There is still some good
...writing in the Soviet Union, but
...he said most of the best Russian
...writing is done in the West. He
...is particularly critical of Yev-
...geny Zamyatin. "He changed drasti-
...cally. He lost his grip. He was
...supposed to be a poet. Solzhe-
...nitzen, but he never dared take
...the next step. He lacked the
... guts."
...He has never met Solzhenit-
...zen. "I admire his writings but
...he should stick to fiction." He is
...critical of the West but not in
...the same way as Solzhenit-
...zen. "I don't think the West is
...desperate as he does. I see it as a
...hardship of common sense."
...Now he describes himself as
...orthodox Christian and liberal.
..."I am proud of that word. It has
...been distorted for political
...reasons but I believe in it. But I
...am not a political writer."

Richard Dowden

"The Burn" by Vassily Aksyonov,
...Hutchinson, £9.95

CONSOLE CROSSWORD (No 467)

1. Papyrus (5)	11. Outline (5)	21. Irish poet dramatist (5)
2. Employed group (4,5)	12. Turning device (5)	22. Cubby-hole (5)
3. Female (5)	13. Gentleman's (5)	23. Bharat (5)
4. Harm wish (5)	14. Mistress (9)	24. Remove skin (4)
5. Apollo's mother (4)	15. W German mining area (4)	25. Inside lane (4)
6. Poisonous tree-snake (5)	16. Twist (4)	
7. Line of approach (6)		

SOLUTION TO No 466
ACROSS: 1 Cambr 5 Neri 9 Anxious 11 Dogtooth 13 Join
15 Butterfingers 17 Iron 18 Duty free 21 Tripped 22 Relic 23 Agar
24 Nudist
DOWN: 2 Along 3 Tay 4 Beast of burden 5 Next 6 Two tone
7 Wildebeest 8 Scoundrel 12 Obey 14 Only 16 Turning 19 Rolls
20 Spar 22 Red

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And where there's less friction, there's less wear and less noise, making the eta engine one of the most refined and quietest engines around.

And all this without sacrificing any of BMW's renowned driver appeal.

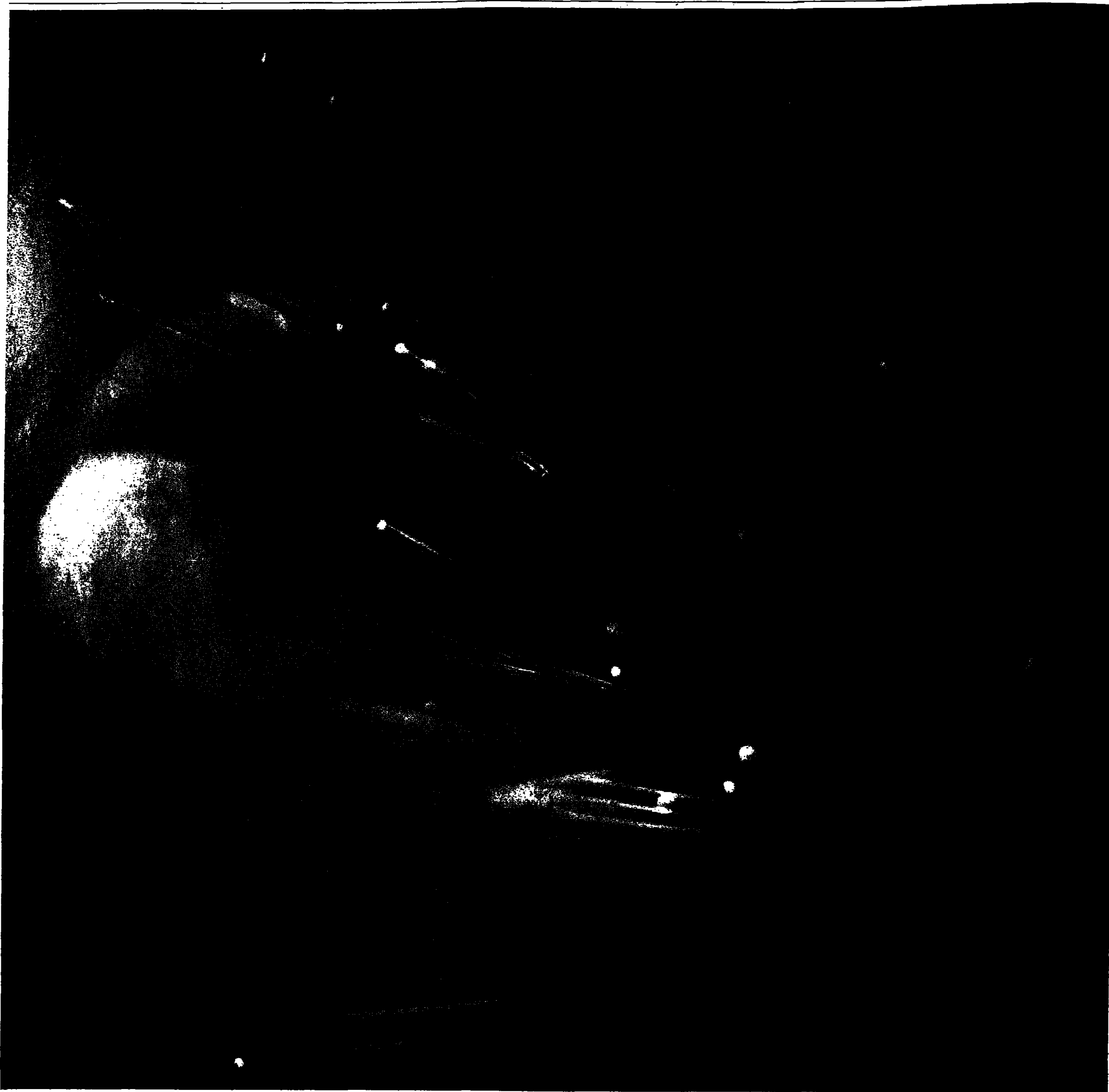
In fact, the BMW 525e exhibits every attribute of a traditional luxury saloon, save one.

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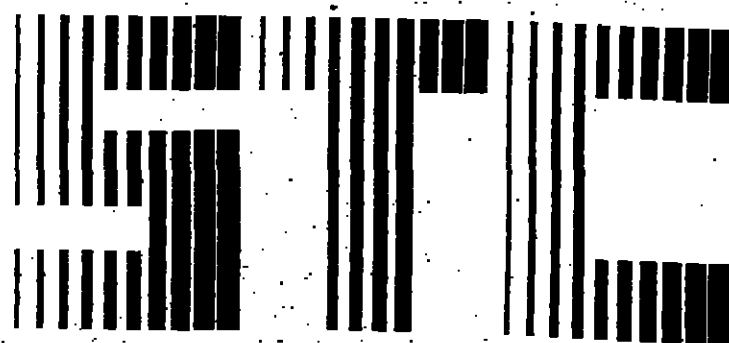
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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Moans of the middle-aged male

Yvonne Roberts has interviewed a selection of 35-year-old men who say they know how much sex equals happiness today's men but is not



Yvonne Roberts: Hoping to bring some insight

Scottish who runs a Palm. They are exceptional. Robert also has a Man. On the other hand, he writes, introduces men, small men, constant how, or of based on sex, of different disciplines, book, family, and provide might of B. in the middle of the Robert's much have. No, could my I, my example, ness, my vocal, could. We're glimmering, sitting on. But I am not, I have material, but I am, spirit, of re, ground, Proud.

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The sweet delights of duck

One of the most delicious meats to eat is duck. It is a meat that is often overlooked, but it is a meat that is full of flavor and is very healthy. Duck is a meat that is often overlooked, but it is a meat that is full of flavor and is very healthy. Duck is a meat that is often overlooked, but it is a meat that is full of flavor and is very healthy.



Shona Crawford Poole

Duck breast ham, jambon d'ail de canard, is not at all difficult to make provided you have a fairly cool, airy place in which to hang it. Duck breast ham, jambon d'ail de canard, is not at all difficult to make provided you have a fairly cool, airy place in which to hang it.

Cut off by a plague of locusts

There is a new breed of locusts in the world. They are called 'first person' locusts. They are a new breed of locusts in the world. They are called 'first person' locusts. They are a new breed of locusts in the world. They are called 'first person' locusts.

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ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

Enter God - doing the back stroke

First Child: "God go to the swimming." Second Child: "Not as fast as I am." Father: "What makes you say that?" First Child: "He was very old and had a white beard." Second Child: "That's Mr. Sanderson from the library." First Child: "I know it was God, because he suddenly disappeared." Second Child: "No he didn't. He was just swimming underwater."



First Child: "God lives in Heaven, doesn't he?" Father: "I believe that is the case, yes." First Child: "And is Heaven near Richmond?" Father: "Hardly." First Child: "What's the name of the other place?" Father: "Twickenham?" First Child: "No, you know." Father: "You mean, Hell?" First Child: "Yes." Second Child: "Is that near Richmond?" Father: "Sometimes." First Child: "If you die and go there when you're still in Miss Mansbridge's class, does that mean you'll be at school for ever?" Father: "Bed time now children."



VANESSA'S DIARY

Wed. Promised to give talk in village hall on 'Preparing for Christmas'. Found I'd got nothing prepared at all. Decided to fall back on dear old Fortnums, always so reliable in a crisis. Took along a selection of Fortnums delectable wines, a traditional Christmas hamper, some jams, a cake, Scotch shortbread, and a mini-hamper (the ideal inexpensive gift).



The New Times Cook Book by Shona Crawford Poole is published tomorrow in paperback by Fontana, £3.95. The book is a collection of recipes and writings first published in The Times Cook columns. It is also available in hardback published by Collins Willow, £9.95.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Wrong side of the fence

Hugh Shooter, Young Conservative, Young Monday Club and very right-wing, had hoped to condemn miners' picket line violence during yesterday's Tory conference debate on law and order. Unfortunately he was otherwise engaged. He was appearing in court where he was fined £200 with £50 costs and £100 compensation, as part of a 40-string YC mob of the CND's wood and canvas Trident "submarine". The bow-tied, and wing-collared Shooter was unrepentant after the case, claiming his "non-violent action" was no different in essence to peace workers cutting the fences of the Greenham camp. Nor, it seems, will he suffer financially. Fellow YCs have begun a Friends of Hugh Shooter campaign to raise the necessary cash.

● Mrs Thatcher is losing her grip. On sale at the Tory conference is a book of her selected speeches from 1975-1977. *Let Our Children Grow*, remembered at less than half price, while Hugh Stephenson's *Mrs Thatcher's First Year*, originally £6.50, is going for a mere £1.

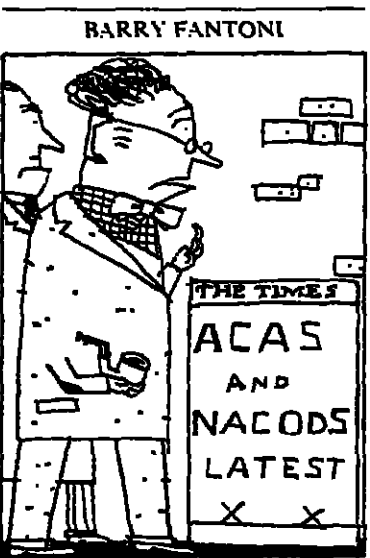
Ploy school

As the hunt continues for the mole who told *The Times* of the plot to oust Edward Du Cann as chairman of the 1922 Committee, the finger of suspicion - in Brighton - was being pointed at Du Cann himself. The suggestion - which I am assured is without foundation - comes from those who vividly recall Du Cann brilliantly manipulating the press when his position as party chairman was in jeopardy in 1966. Believing Heath was trying to sack him, Du Cann phoned the *Daily Mail's* Walter Terry and told all. When the story appeared, surprised Tory bigwigs naturally had to deny any such intentions and were forced to express their - and Heath's - total confidence in Du Cann who, as a result, he survived for another year.

Race apart

A bust up between Monday Club members is expected in Brighton's Bedford Hotel on Thursday where the Sussex branch, rebelling against orders from club stalwarts not to discuss immigration, has invited Harvey Proctor to speak on "Nation or multi-racial society". So outraged is the Monday Club, which is desperately trying to change its Enoch Powell image, that its conference news sheet snubs the Sussex branch meeting, and urges members to attend a reception by Forest, a pro-smoking group.

● "You must distinguish between conference and deference," one of Mrs Thatcher's former advisers told my colleague in Brighton yesterday. "This is deference. Nobody confers here."



'I'm not sure, perhaps it's an early opera by Handel'

Selling point

Nigel Williamson, tipped as the next editor of the *Bennett Tribune* newspaper, recently published a booklet called *The New Right* exposing the "shady" groups whose ideas now dominate Conservative thinking. One such is the Coalition for Peace Through Security. Various accused by Williamson of propagating McCarthyism smears against CND, sabotaging Bruce Kent's 1982 speaking tour of America and exploiting direct-mail techniques to raise funds from right-wing activists. Of the latter at least the coalition is guilty. Its research director, Julian Lewis, has now written to Williamson saying he's "absolutely thrilled" with the booklet and asking for bulk order rates. "We wish to mail out large quantities to help us with our fund-raising programme", he says.

Heir disparate

Edinburgh's upper classes have, to say the least, had their collective nose disoriented. It went almost without saying that when Ludovic Kennedy announced his resignation as chairman of the board of the Royal Lyceum Theatre, his nominee, Menzies Campbell QC, would succeed him. That, however, was to reckon without Edinburgh's new Labour District Council. In May, five of its newly elected councillors took their places on the board and objected en bloc to Campbell's establishment credentials. They proposed Angus Calder, a writer whose political views more closely accord with their own. Stalemate ensued, the dispute rumbled on, and now, months later, it is to be settled by a vote. It is, says Kennedy, the first he can remember the board ever taking.

PHS

Plain speaking: the Tory task

by George Walden

A virulent new disease is afflicting British politics. Economics is bad enough, but the decline of language, meaning and rational debate is even worse. As the din of the Labour Party conference dies away, an acrid smell lingers like cordite in the political air.

On the central issues of economics and defence, the Party of the official Opposition has simply withdrawn from the debate, and the title slogan "action, not words" has acquired a new and sinister meaning on the left. When words fail, violence follows, as sections of the national community are lost to reason. When the Prime Minister speaks to her Party, she must find language to unlock ears of those who "do not want to know", and reopen the national debate. Who knows, the Government might learn something too.

The first need is for clarity. It is far too easy to talk of polarization. True, the Government tends to forget that not everyone is well placed to withstand the rigours of competition, and should moderate its language accordingly. But if we all begin to think of ourselves as an elderly and infirm country which deserves a respite from realism

because of services to humanity, we can wave goodbye to the welfare state and the National Health Service.

Although the Government is right in its diagnosis of the nation's ills, it must be circumspect in the way it communicates the bad news to the country. It must eschew the amiable obfuscation which helped to get us into trouble in the first place, but the best way of coaxing the country along is not always with verbal night-sticks.

In the absence of responsible opposition, the Government should show itself more ready to encourage debate in the country as a whole. Nigel Lawson made a start by producing a surprisingly readable 10-year forward look on public expenditure. If, as it seems, not many bishops have read it, something more accessible is needed for the rest of us. Above all, critics should be encouraged to put forward practical proposals to combat unemployment. It is significant that the only realistic contribution has come not from the Opposition but from the Tory "One Nation"

group's pamphlet by Sir Philip Goodhart.

"Tone matters too, and defence is the perfect example. No one in his right mind should be complacent about the nuclear arms race, but last year's invective against the adversary and the eerily technological talk about weapon systems are encouraged irrational fears and romantic solutions.

Many Tories have never been in love with Trident, and any affection falters as the cost mounts. It is also right to press for more initiatives on arms control. Again, the responsibility to discuss these issues openly and soberly grows as Labour disqualifies itself from serious debate.

As emotion takes over, intelligent men on the left are driven to defend outrageous illogicalities, such as the claim that Britain was ready to use nuclear weapons against Argentina, but that Russia would never use them against us. These contortions are mirrored by a disinclination to language. One Labour conference document suggests that its policies might not remain "immutablely

unchanged", while another spoke - more creatively - of the "Walsall Pact".

Of course we are all fallible, and even the Church should watch its language too. Whatever his views on the Government's economic policy, I assume that Dr Runcie would approve of its attempt to improve the teaching of English.

For some time one of our most distinguished academics, George Steiner, has emphasized the perils of the retreat from the word, reminding us that "a semi-literate democracy is a contradiction in terms". A measure of where we have got to is that it was considered a bold, and even "confrontational" step when HMI recently called for more formal teaching of grammar - the very vehicle of meaning.

The biggest mistake the Government could make would be to over-react to Labour's new primitivism - if only because it would give Mr Scargill exactly what he wants. In beginning a new dialogue with the country, the Government must not only find a new language, but be careful to speak over his head.

The author is Conservative MP for Buckingham.

The coal strike: Paul Routledge on the need for wider views

When will the public be served?

The leaks about unhappiness and divisions within the National Coal Board are not easy to decipher, but they appear to confirm persistent rumours of a growing divergence between the traditional mining engineers and their abrasive chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor.

If the signals are being read properly, some of the industry's managers want a deal - not on the current terms of the striking miners, but a deal all the same, that will allow the mines to get back into operation. Meanwhile the dominant Ian MacGregor requires a once-and-for-all reassertion of the right to manage, and in that the hardliners have the powerful backing of Mrs Thatcher and her key ministers.

The mining engineers share the industrial objectives of their chairman, specifically to rid the industry of high-cost capacity; but there are nagging doubts about what is seen as the "political" objective of taking on the NUM in a fight to the finish. Their long experience of British coal mining suggests that there will be no winners in such an Armageddon.

In public, of course, the Coal Board presents a united front behind the MacGregor strategy. There is no split: everybody agrees that the March 6 closure programme involving 20 pits and 20,000 jobs this year must go ahead. In private, however, the engineers are becoming increasingly concerned at the deteriorating conditions of the pits - and of relations with the men they have to manage. Even the safety brigades men responsible for rescues after underground calamities have now been withdrawn in Yorkshire and Northumberland, and picketing of colliery managers has begun.

It is against this backdrop that the three mining unions and the NCB sit down tomorrow to chart a way out of the 31-week-old strike. MacGregor will initially see leaders of the NUM, and the other two unions - NACODS representing the pit-deputies, and BACM representing the management - are then expected to be drawn into the peace process. As officials say the meeting will "aim to find a basis for a resumption of work."

This is the first time such a form of words has been used in the seven or eight abortive attempts to achieve a settlement of the dispute. It suggests that getting back to work is the primary objective, and that some secondary - perhaps long-term - objectives can be left to further negotiations between the parties after the men go back.

Arthur Scargill may find that a



Scargill and MacGregor, war of attrition: below, three other NUM leaders facing contempt charges: Heathfield, McGahey and Taylor



seductive approach. At the moment, the only new proposal on the table is the deputies' idea of an independent "final appeal" procedure on colliery closures. The miners regard it as an interesting proposition, but insist that it does not address itself to the main point at issue: the March 6 closure programme. Only when that is withdrawn (not revised, or reappraised) will they order a return to work, they say.

If the Coal Board is persuaded to take such a radical step, and it is most unlikely to be so persuaded, the long-term aim of stabilizing the industry through some form of third-party appeal court adjudicating on future colliery closures could be realized.

However, it is all still at the drawing-board stage. The Board has indicated that it will accept "advice" from such a forum, but not binding arbitration. And no thought seems to have been given as to who

would make up such a tribunal. Practically all the deep-mining expertise in Britain is concentrated in the NCB itself, though there are some academic experts in a handful of universities with mining departments.

MacGregor has not yet conceded the principle of third party intervention. The Board cites the 1946 Coal Industry Nationalization Act as its authority for insisting on retaining managerial hegemony, and the Act certainly does charge it with "working and getting the coal in Great Britain to the exclusion of any other person", and "securing the efficient development of the coal mining industry."

But it also charges the Board with "making supplies of coal available of such qualities and sizes, in such quantities and at such prices, as may seem to them best calculated to further the public interest in all respects (my italics) including the

avoidance of any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage."

This form of words may be read in different ways. It is certainly plausible to argue that it places a responsibility on the Board to produce cheap coal "in the public interest". It may also be open to question whether the public interest is best served "in all respects" by the relentless pursuit of a strategy that has not worked despite a seven-month strike - and might never work.

Unfortunately, tomorrow's talks that might break out of this deadlock take place in a sharply political context. The Tory Party is in conference and the High Court is today due to pronounce judgment on Scargill and his fellow NUM leaders for alleged contempt of orders restraining them from acting as though the strike is official.

The court will have to decide on the miners' refusal to abide by its decision that the strike in Yorkshire and Derbyshire is unofficial, in the knowledge that any upping of the ante by a judge could have desperately counter-productive results in terms of industrial relations. If it is not likely that Scargill and his colleagues will be committed to fail the application of his "disident" members; more likely that his union will be fined heavily and then lay itself open to sequestration by refusing to pay the fine.

This is not the textbook framework for restarting peace talks in a dispute that has divided the nation as well as the union. It has to be said that the miners' rhetoric about winning the conflict now sounds more convincing than at any time since they came out nearly eight months ago. Both Scargill and MacGregor are beginning to sound like First World War generals, each insisting that the struggle must go on despite the sacrifices. But Scargill is looking over the hill at the prospect of fresh troops arriving from the TUC, the shape of power and steel workers. The Transport Workers are already predicting power cuts in eight weeks' time as a result of supportive action in line with last month's TUC deal.

The NCB could take retaliatory action, and the Government may use troops to move coal from the strike-bound pitshead if the national power grid is put at risk. These are endgame politics. Is it not time for the parties to determine jointly how to serve "the public interest in all respects", as the nationalization law laid down?

point to Decree 88A of July 21, which makes a first-class felony of any statement or allegation which damages the reputation of members of the government.

And then there are the conditions attached to legal campaigning. Under the election rules, political parties must show they have a minimum \$50,000 in cash and \$100,000 in securities and bonds; so far only Doe's own party has done so. The others will not comply, they say, until they all told what will happen to the money after the elections. The conditions are reminiscent of the property restrictions which disenfranchised so many Liberians under the Tubmans and the Tolberts whom Doe overthrew.

But Decree 88A, and the recent amendment to election rules which permits the refusal of registration to parties which hold "adverse ideological aims and objectives", have demolished what little credibility the return to civilian rule still had. Calls on Doe to resign have now reached a crescendo.

A recent sign of his nervousness was his order to the army to flog publicly anyone found distributing leaflets "intended to create chaos in society". He has also deplored the "high level of indiscipline in society" and said that no disturbance would prevent him reestablishing democracy.

Western diplomats have expressed their dismay at the recent repression, and their hopes that the civilian rule will amount to more than the military in mutiny. However, Doe believes he is being no more autocratic than other African recipients of western support, and he is hoping that the Reagan administration will see things his way.

The author is West Africa editor of *African Business* magazine.

Digby Anderson

Where vouchers would be valid

"Peace studies" rather than vouchers dominate this year's Conservative Party education debate. Thus, at first sight, the concern with schools has moved to much lighter issues. Vouchers would have involved a radical reform of the state school system, with state and private schools charging fees and parents being given the financial wherewithal to pay those fees at the school of their choice. Peace studies, in contrast, appear to involve little more than tightening up on abuses in one tiny sector of the curriculum.

The Government backed down over vouchers because the changes required were too great. The challenges, opportunities and problems which vouchers presented were too much even for the politicians of "conviction". For all its advocacy of entrepreneurship, the Cabinet was afraid of taking risks. Instead, the recent green paper offers the minority of activist parents more control of schools through greater representation on governing bodies - Bennism with an impermanent blue rinse.

Meanwhile the Government has increased its interest in the curriculum. It is attempting to support subjects which need support, such as English, and reduce subjects which have a questionable right to be in the curriculum at all, such as peace studies. Last week's HMI report on standardizing the objectives of English language teaching to ensure that, after 11 years of compulsory schooling, pupils should be able to read, speak and write properly will be welcomed by parents and employers, if not by all teachers. Many parents will share the minister's worries about the susceptibility of bogus subjects such as peace studies to propaganda and indoctrination.

However different these curriculum preoccupations may appear from a policy radically to reform the funding of schools, a government which thinks deeply about the former will be led, inevitably, back to the latter. For peace studies are not inherently bad and certainly not to be banned. It is simply that they have no place in a school which pupils are compelled to attend by law and towards which taxpayers are compelled to contribute.

Peace studies are indeed to be welcomed, especially if they are taught by apocryphal, ill-informed dupes, because they set us looking at the curriculum in this way: what other subjects are there which have no place in a nationalized coercive school system? More positively, what subjects are there that might more appropriately be learned elsewhere in the community?

Prominent candidates for education outside school are sex education, mother-tongue languages of linguistic minority groups, religious instruction, music, "play", sports, some foreign languages, community service, vocational-

industrial education and that function so excessively, inappropriately, exorbitantly and inadequately performed by schools, child minding.

If coercive state schools concentrated on subjects widely recognized as essential for everyone such as English or maths, which they should best be able to teach, they could leave parents to choose the extramural parts of their children's education as they wish, paying for them with vouchers financed by the reduced cost of schools operating a reduced curriculum. Schools would obviously have to abandon their unmerited monopoly of daylight hours, perhaps working a continental day or, for optimum use of plant, a two-shift day.

Extra-mural education would be provided by voluntary groups, religious and community organizations, profit-oriented educational specialists and firms anxious to acquire an appropriately trained workforce. No decent propagandists would emerge to offer peace studies, perhaps even courses in hating the police, in a bunker somewhere, and if parents wished to pay for their children to attend and the children actually turned up, so be it. Extra-mural education happens already, of course, but it is forced into evenings and weekends and the state takes so much money in taxes for schools that poor income groups have little left to spend on the non-school education they would choose for their children.

At present the choice is stark: packaged state education or packaged private education. No mixture of the two is allowed: take it or leave it. To take any significant amount of private education, you must take full-time private education at full-time prices. But there is no reason why the choice should be so exclusive. And the key to opening up a practical choice is the close inspection of the curriculum. Many will agree that certain subjects ought to be provided at state schools, free at the point of consumption and attendance at them compulsory. But after inspecting the items on contemporary school curricula, few would agree that all are most appropriately provided in compulsory state schools. That is the lesson that peace studies teaches.

It should not be a difficult lesson for the Government to learn. The Cabinet is, presumably, not proud to preside over a schooling system rigid with socialist assumptions, and socialist organization. If it believes its own rhetoric, it will recognize that the unit in society responsible for education is the family, not the NUT. The family contracts out some of that responsibility to the school system, but not all. It should be helped to contract out more of it where it chooses and thus fulfil its responsibility.

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

Robin Cook

The plutonium that leaked away

When Lord Hinton died last year, an official statement from the CEBG described him as "uncompromising in his standards, unswerving in his integrity". Its chairman, Sir Walter Marshall, personally added his tribute to Lord Hinton's "immense dedication" and "strong, usually deadly accurate, sense of judgment".

Whether Sir Walter would now be quite so unguarded in praising Lord Hinton's "deadly accurate sense of judgment" must be a matter of speculation, since this week sees the posthumous publication of an interview with Lord Hinton which records his judgment on the CEBG evidence to the Sizewell inquiry. In it he observes, "I am questioning the whole statement, because it is deplorable. I don't know whether they should get permission for a PWG (pressurized-water reactor) at Sizewell or not. But what is important is that they shouldn't tell bloody lies in their evidence."

In the specific statement which drew Lord Hinton's fire was the claim by the CEBG witness that "no plutonium produced in CEBG reactors has been applied to weapons use either in the UK or elsewhere". Lord Hinton's dismissal of this assurance commands respect because his chairmanship coincided with the CEBG Magnox period, when it was constructing nuclear reactors originally designed for military purposes and superbly efficient in producing weapons-grade plutonium.

Lord Hinton declined to be drawn as to whether CEBG plutonium had been applied to weapons use "in the UK or elsewhere", but anyone listening to the tape of the interview is left with the clear impression that he had in mind the American weapons programme. Here again Lord Hinton is a witness of weight because it was during his chairmanship of the CEBG that the British Government negotiated the 1958 and 1959 defence agreements which provided for the export of plutonium from CEBG reactors to the US Defence Department in exchange for enriched uranium for our Polaris programme.

Why the Pentagon wanted the plutonium and what it did with it remains a mystery. A couple of years ago I tried to raise the matter in the Commons, and was assured by the minister replying for the government that nothing so crude as its use in warheads had taken place. In the light of Lord Hinton's brusque rebuttal of such claims, let me record my personal impression that the minister concerned, Mr John Moore, spoke in all good faith and subsequently took considerably pains to answer a series of pedantic written questions from me.

If deceit has been practised, I suspect it has taken place lower down among the nuclear priesthood, from whom he in turn had to prise his information.

In any event, the assurances which I then received were less than perfect. Our plutonium may not have been used for weapons but it had been applied to "other military purposes". The problem with this distinction is that the military has no real use for plutonium other than as an essential element in thermonuclear warheads. We indeed no one in America had much use for plutonium after Carter shut down the fast reactor programme.

It appears that what the US military did with our plutonium was to farm it out for various experimental purposes. Yet even this relatively innocuous use has been qualified by the recent assertion of a member of President Reagan's administration that this did not qualify as the end of our plutonium, which remained on loan from the military and available for recall whenever needed for weapons use.

Moreover, only four tonnes of British plutonium has yet been identified in various US energy establishments. This also raises the publication of a calculation by nuclear scientists who have concluded that at least six tonnes of British plutonium is not accounted for in home inventories, and has presumably been exported to the US.

The clear implication is that two tonnes of the plutonium we have supplied to the US has gone missing without explanation, and the only likely place where such a large volume of explosive material could be sealed is in military stockpiles.

The emergence of such new and alarming information on the final destination of British plutonium is likely to infuriate that section of public opinion that is already deeply worried by the pace of the US nuclear programme. Most Britons who are opposed to accepting cruise missiles are unlikely to be reconciled to them by the possibility that their warheads are based on British plutonium.

Yet there is an even more profound significance to the recent revelations. For three decades the civil nuclear industry has maintained that its operations are entirely distinct from the military nuclear programme, and should not be condemned through guilt by association, a plea which now appears dangerously bogus. We always knew our civil nuclear reactors were born of military invention. We must now suspect that they have since been used to meet military necessity.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Doe's no-go areas as Liberia lingers under army rule



April 1980: summary justice for Tolbert's ousted ministers

wounded had been treated, among them a rape victim.

The United States, whose civil and military aid to Liberia soared by 1,200 per cent in the last four years, is the source of the loudest protest. The large Liberian exile community is worried and the State Department has sent a special envoy to Monrovia to monitor the crisis. A statement expressed concern that "no actions should be taken to jeopardize" the return to civilian rule.

Doe's opponents are no red-hot revolutionaries. Major-General Podier, former deputy head of state and military strongman, and two former justice ministers in the Doe government, Isaac Nyepu and Chea



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TIME FOR A NEW PLAN

The Energy Secretary's speech to the Conservative Party conference yesterday understandably emphasized the sheer reasonableness of the Government's position in the coal dispute. After the TUC and the Labour Party supported Mr Scargill's case, if not his methods, it was perhaps appropriate to underline what a good deal had been offered to the miners; to spell out the Government's record on helping the coal industry and its future commitment to it, and to contrast that with Mr Scargill's unreasonable and thirst for confrontation. That line certainly won Mr Walker a long awaited standing ovation from the party faithful.

What Mr Walker's speech failed to do was to give any guidance about what will have to happen after the strike is over. How are miners going to avoid a repeat performance when coal stocks are not so high? How are they to end subsidies of more than £1 billion a year indefinitely on anything like the terms still on the table from the National Coal Board and now being discussed with the pit deputies union? And how are taxpayers to avoid plunging an extra £1 billion a year into the industry ad infinitum?

It is ironic, but instructive, that Mr Walker's sheer reasonableness in treating the miners as a special case has almost certainly played a crucial role in prolonging the strike. He has in essence offered, and continues to offer, an unconditional one-way social compact, committing the Government to invest £3 billion over four years and eschew any compulsory redundancies regardless of the finances of the industry or the acceptance by the

National Union of Mineworkers of their side of the compact. No such offers were made to the steelmen, to BL workers or even to the National Health Service. It is unlikely that Sir Michael Edwards could have turned round BL if they had. The miners alone have been exempted from the need to face commercial and financial realities. Had the Government's commitments been made conditional on miners' acceptance of the closure of the 15 per cent of current capacity that is irretrievably uneconomic, then the majority of miners might have been more reluctant to fall in with Mr Scargill's rolling strike strategy at a much earlier stage.

There is still a strong case for withdrawing such unconditional commitments, though it is doubtful whether that would now have the same effect or credibility. Yesterday's debate certainly suggested the governing party now has no stomach for such a move.

There is, however, an overwhelming case for a fundamental rethink of the structure of the coal industry after the strike is over and for avoiding any commitments to maintain the industry or the National Coal Board in anything like their present form. A few years ago, it would have been hard to imagine the present prosperity of Jaguar or that its employees would be offered a pay deal that will give them high wages and bonuses that reflect the company's efficiency and prosperity. It would take self-delusion as well as imagination to imagine such a happy state of affairs in the coal industry under its present structure.

The need to bring in commercial forces, improve security of supply and to soften the effects of the aftermath of the strike on the fiscal all argue in the same direction. To start with, the National Coal Board's role as a commercial business should be separated from its monopoly role as regulator of the industry and owner of mining rights. If the latter were vested in a separate state body, which hired out mining rights to the NCB and others, then the social and strategic aspects of uneconomic pits, as well as the overriding social obligation to help and support mining communities deprived of no-hope pits would properly be divorced from the commercial duties of the NCB.

In particular, there is no reason for profitable opencast mines, which are operated by construction workers working for private employers, to be kept artificially within the NCB's monopoly, where they have, it appears, been held back to help uneconomic deep mines. The opencast mines should be removed speedily from the public sector altogether.

A start should also be made with privatizing the more viable deep mine areas. This should preferably be achieved by sale or transfer to organizations controlled by miners, for the history of the mining industry cries out for worker ownership as the right alternative to a failed state monopoly. The Nottingham miners could first be offered control of their own enterprise. It should be made plain, however, that worker ownership is an alternative to conventional privatization and not to the discredited status quo.

BLACK AND RED PROPAGANDA

Sir James Goldsmith was back in the news this week when the libel case brought against him by *Der Spiegel* was withdrawn in the High Court; the plaintiffs, while insisting on their editorial and journalistic independence from KGB control, acknowledged the "dangers to Press freedom posed by Soviet covert propaganda". This is good news: Sir James has successfully drawn attention to such KGB disinformation ploys as the smear campaign against Dr Strauss, the "Ban the Neutron Bomb" campaign, and the effort to blur the issues over the Korean airliner tragedy. These are only a few of many known cases.

Lenin recognized that a free press is the mainstay of democracy: within two days of seizing power he issued a decree closing down all opposition newspapers — weeks before he formed the secret police and months before he established the Red Army. In every country coming under Moscow's control, the media has been muzzled. Where the Soviet leaders are unable to suppress open discussion, they seek by a variety of means to influence the presentation of information on which judgments are based.

Few people now are persuaded by the exaggerated claims of overt Soviet propaganda; to influence world opinion, the required information should appear in the free media, rather

than in publications subsidized or controlled by Moscow. How can this be achieved? Money, personnel, and other resources are not spared, since the drive to manipulate world opinion is approved at the very highest level. Mr Andropov is believed to have greatly expanded the KGB disinformation department to include other "active measures" of a similar type. There is not only the evidence of defectors: the admissions of those they subverted are also on record.

The former KGB officer Mr Stanislav Levchenko revealed the names of Japanese journalists he recruited when based in Tokyo as a correspondent. He provided the general guidelines, leaving the agent to write the article in his own style. Mr Levchenko estimated the number of KGB recruits in Japan at about 200, including a former cabinet minister, and several members of parliament. In 1981, Danish counter-intelligence arrested the writer, Arne Herlov Peterson, who under direct KGB control published Soviet propaganda, and organized a campaign for a Nordic nuclear-free zone. In 1979, a French court convicted the journalist, Pierre-Charles Pathé of serving as a KGB agent for almost 20 years, and in 1983, the Swiss expelled a Soviet correspondent for organizing

protest demonstrations and attempting to manipulate the media.

President Nasser's trusted chief intelligence advisor Sami Sharaf was a Soviet agent of influence. A French ambassador in Moscow, M. Maurice Dejean, was blackmailed in an attempt to place an agent in President De Gaulle's inner circle, with the aim of exacerbating the rift with the United States. Moscow uses the intelligence services of the satellite countries in the same way. For years, the East German agent, Guenther Guillaume served on the staff of the former West German chancellor, Willy Brandt.

Forged documents smearing US policies and politicians have been successfully planted in Third World newspapers, and last year the *New Statesman* published as authentic a letter to Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick which was branded as a fake by the US mission to the United Nations. The examples are legion, and no doubt were it not that investigators less wealthy than Sir James Goldsmith fear incurring heavy legal costs, further well-substantiated accusations would be aired. It is in the nature of journalism that a sensational forgery is likely to win wider coverage than its later retraction, and Moscow certainly makes the most of this fact.

SOMETHING FISHY

It is no surprise that European Community inspectors have found evidence of systematic cheating by Dutch fishermen in disregard of the catch quotas. Holland is allotted under the common fisheries policy; or that the cheating is with the connivance of Dutch government officials. British fishermen have alleged as much for as long as the quotas have been in operation, and their allegation is against the fishermen of other member states also. British ministers have shared the suspicion but have not had the facts with which to frame a charge. Those facts are now reported to be available to the Commission and action is expected to follow in the European Court of Justice.

The British fishing industry is one of the sacrificial victims of successive governments' European policies. Accession to the Community entailed swallowing a common fisheries policy that had been cooked for the advantage of the fishermen of six to the detriment of British fishermen. British waters, which were extended de facto from 12 miles to 200 miles from the shore in the course of the protracted negotiations, are fish-rich and

comparatively well conserved. Instead of their remaining under national control and being used to compensate the industry for loss of distant fishing grounds, British waters became part of the Community fishpond.

The regime to which they have been subjected is built on the principle of equal access to all Community waters for the fishermen of all member states. Exclusive rights are recognized for narrow strips of coastal waters: for the rest the equal access principle is translated into national quotas within a total allowable catch fixed for each main species by reference to the requirements of conservation. The quotas are the subject of interminable haggling. They are bearable, as the best of a bad job from the British point of view, only on the basis of confidence that they are everywhere respected.

The enforcement of access and quotas is primarily the responsibility of each member government. There is also, on the wise insistence of the British Government, an inspectorate responsible to the Commission which has the duty of overseeing national enforcement. It is that

inspectorate which has rumbled the Dutch and now proposes to extend its investigations in other directions. The inspectors' early catch — they have been in place for barely a year — promises well for their efficacy; though it still has to be seen if the Community's creaking machinery for adjudicating and deterring wrong-doing will work promptly and effectively.

It may be doubted if a strength of thirteen is adequate for the fish inspectorate, even before the hoped-for accession of Spain, which eats an inordinate amount of fish and has an underworked and technically proficient fishing fleet poised to sweep the Community's waters. The function of inspection is one of crucial importance, as much with milk quotas or olive oil as with fish. Producers and middlemen handling commodities subject to Community regulation are quick enough with corrupt abuse of the rules if they see an opening for enrichment — not all of them of course, but enough to inject anarchy into continental-wide arrangements whose chances of being observed anywhere depends on their being observed everywhere.

Making the best use of English

From Mr B. E. Newton

Sir, My attention was drawn to your item (October 3) concerning HM Inspectors' consultative document, *English from 5 to 16*. The stress in the headline, "School inspectors want grammar at forefront in teaching English", and in the early part of your report provoked in me a weary despair that long-disputed methods of teaching English were about to be revived.

When the document arrived on my desk the following day, I was ready to take the knife to it. I should have had more faith in the wisdom and experience of HMI. They want nothing of the kind. Indeed they assert unequivocally that "it has long been recognised that formal exercises in the analysis and classification of language contribute little or nothing to the ability to use it" (para. 3.8).

What Her Majesty's Inspectorate is suggesting, as indeed many enlightened English teachers have been doing for a long time, is that if some attention is given to the examination and discussion of the structure of the language pupils speak, write, read, or listen to for real purposes, their awareness of its possibilities and pitfalls can be sharpened. In the course of this, it is reasonable that they should learn such grammatical terminology as is useful to them for the discussion of language (para. 3.8).

Your correspondent appears to be seeking to create a conflict where none exists. The HMI document is a reasoned and helpful contribution to the discussion about aims, objectives and methods in teaching English. If it is read in conjunction with other HMI reports, notably the chapter on language in *Aspects of Secondary Education in England* (HMSO, 1979), it shows HMI to be concerned to promote a view of language development which gives equal status to talking, writing, reading and listening and stresses the importance of children using language for a wide variety of "realistic" purposes.

Far from being a reactionary document, *English from 5 to 16* encourages a broader and more liberal understanding of the purposes of English teaching. It is well worth reading and reflecting upon.

Yours faithfully,
B. E. NEWTON,
(Senior Adviser for English,
London Borough of Havering),
Mercury House,
Mercury Gardens,
Romford,
Essex,
October 4.

Harnessing the Severn

From Mr A. J. Ivins

Sir, Monetists must be concerned that North Sea oil revenues be converted into new energy assets, so that this vital wealth should be preserved as a buttress of our future prosperity.

Since 1928 the feasibility of harnessing the tides to generate electricity in the Severn estuary has been recognised. Countless hours and money have been spent in investigation by scientific committees and no major disadvantage has been identified. It is estimated that the barrage could provide between 8 per cent to 10 per cent of the UK electricity needs and a reasonable life expectancy for the structure must be at least 200 years.

Then there is the road link to South Wales along the top of the barrage, maybe a rail link, the improved conditions for leisure industry (and private investment in this) and a site for a possible third London airport created by land reclamation, using material dredged from the sea bed.

The cost would be £8bn over eight years with nearly all of this going to the UK economy. At least 60,000 direct new jobs would be created throughout the country, many unskilled, in the extraction, transport, shipping, engineering, electrical manufacturing, construction and construction support industries.

If tax clawback, insurance and pension contributions and the saving in unemployment and social security payments are discounted, it would amount to an investment by the Government of £500m per annum into the UK economy.

Set against similar payment for defence systems, frequently providing jobs in other countries, this pollution-free means of generating electricity, combined with the other features, makes a good national investment. Add the private investment it could generate and it is one single major step that would prime the pump of financial confidence.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. IVINS, Chairman,
South Western Regional Joint Consultative Committee for
Building,
22 Richmond Hill,
Bristol,
Avon,
October 2.

Two-point turn

From Dr Malcolm L. Chiswick

Sir, The two-point turn described by Dr Perkins (October 3) might well knock whole seconds off the time taken for him to do his call, but I fear it may also knock less from unsuspecting pedestrians.

I fail to see how the manoeuvre can be accomplished without the car mounting the pavement, unless, of course, the car is first moved forwards, away from the parking position, in which case it is a three-point and not a two-point turn and Dr Perkins's breakthrough is a fraud.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM L. CHISWICK,
Highfield Road,
Atrincham,
Cheshire,
October 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mixed response to Dr Runcie's pit plea

From Mr J. L. Phillips

Sir, To whom Dr Runcie addressed his call for a return to consensus in the conduct of our nation's affairs?

From my less elevated viewpoint it is abundantly clear that the majority consensus is firmly opposed to yet more public money being invested in digging out material that is too expensive to sell. Only when that fact is clearly accepted by the minority can the forces of conciliation and consensus be brought to bear in support of the individuals and communities concerned.

Does the archbishop have no word of comfort for the majority of working taxpayers in their "despair and hopelessness" imposed by the brick-throwing mob and a self-centred trade union bureaucracy in this dispute?

Yours faithfully,
J. L. PHILLIPS,
The Green Cottage,
Nuthampstead,
Roxton,
Hertfordshire,
October 8.

From Mr D. R. Nicolson

Sir, The large majority of people who read the full interview with the Archbishop of Canterbury today (October 8) will recognize and identify with his concern about "the shift from consensus to confrontation".

It is symptomatic of the underlying trouble that some have been quick to attack his analysis. Are there rabble-rousers on the right as well as the left?

The prominence given to the constructive observations of the archbishop, identifying the dangers to society and priorities for the future, was a welcome relief from the publicity given to the divisive remarks of the extremists which so often make the headlines.

I trust that criticism of the archbishop's comments indicates the strength of his remarks and that his recognition of human dignity as well as an efficient economy as proper aims and priorities may be reflected in the discussions which affect us all.

It is not only the Bishop of Durham who fears a "dialogue of the deaf".

Yours faithfully,
D. R. NICOLSON,
Apple Orchard,
Little Witcombe,
Gloucestershire,
October 8.

From the Reverend Canon R. J. Halliburton

Sir, The Christian voice in politics and in industrial relations should first and foremost be that of Christian lay people. The Church is not the clergy; it is the people of God in every part of our society.

It is, after all, the Christian politician, the Christian industrialist and the Christian miner who know the situation from the inside and only such can experience the depths of feeling on both sides and know equally the limitations on all concerned imposed by a situation in which none will achieve all he wants.

It is at the same time true that if the Christian's conscience in a

dispute such as the present strike is what we might call "perplexed", then it is for the Church's leaders to bring their resources of wisdom to bear on the situation. They should begin by stating principles (e.g., the essential brotherhood of man, the power of God to bring healing and the real possibility of reconciliation). It is equally proper that they should go on to say how these principles might be applied to the case.

For example, at the time of the General Strike Archbishop Randall Davidson suggested (in consultation with Church leaders) that government and the mining industry should so speak "return to base" (i.e., the strike should be called off and the Government continue the subsidy, which it had withdrawn, for a short time and the mine owners reconsider their wages).

At the same time he deplored the then Bishop of Lichfield's initiative in negotiating directly with the miners a way through the impasse, saying that people would feel that "the arrayed forces consist of the Church plus the miners on the one side and the Government on the other".

What we really want to hear from our Church leaders are statements which join the conscience of the nation. At the time of the General Strike, once more, Cardinal Bourne, then Archbishop of Westminster, stated that the whole situation was "a sin against the conscience which we owe to God" — and against the charity and brotherly love which are due to our brethren. In other words, we should be ashamed ever to have allowed ourselves to lapse into such a deplorable state of affairs.

In the light of statements such as this, lay Christians who know the ropes should then examine their consciences and all be prepared to admit fault where it exists and then begin to make amends. But it is as disastrous for a bishop to be an amateur economist or politician as it is for a clergyman to be an amateur architect in redesigning his church hall.

Our Church leaders must drag us back to first principles, like the prophets of old; then it is for the rest of us to face the issues and put things right.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. HALLIBURTON,
30 Alisa Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex,
October 8.

From Mrs Nancy Gwyn-Thomas

Sir, Surely the primary role of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his colleagues is to lead the people of this country to God, and in doing so they make their most important contribution to the solution of our social and economic problems.

When the bishops are sure of their own faith in the Gospel and when their churches are filled with seekers and followers they will be in a better position to criticize the Government.

Yours faithfully,
NANCY GWYN-THOMAS,
White Lodge,
4 Fendon Close,
Cambridge,
October 8.

Miners' special case

From Mr Francis McWilliams

Sir, At last some sense is being injected into the pit closure negotiations.

Of course management of the coalmines should be in the hands of the National Coal Board. Too often, in the past, this has appeared to be in the hands of the NUM.

Of course the National Coal Board should say which collieries should be closed on economic grounds. They are, however, not the people to decide whether, because of a number of other reasons, a particular colliery should be kept open.

That mines and mining communities are a special case recognized by most people. If this was not the case the extremely generous redundancy arrangements would have caused considerable outcry. The method of effecting the closure of collieries should also be effected in a special way.

An outline procedure could be that the National Coal Board would be required to give warning of a pit closure at least three years in advance. An inquiry would then be held, either by a single independent arbitrator or by a panel of such arbitrators. At such an inquiry the Coal Board would put its case and other interested parties, such as the NUM, local authorities, local trade associations, etc would make their representations.

The arbitrator would then make his report and recommendations to the Secretary of State for Energy.

who would then have to decide whether or not the taxpayer (not the National Coal Board) should be asked to bear the burden of keeping such a colliery open and for how long.

Obviously, such inquiries would take time and cost money and given the form of argument at present, apparently favoured by the NUM, could be liable to disruption.

Where an inquiry could not be held because of disruption a colliery would close in any case at the end of the period of notice. The gain from disruption would therefore be minimal.

It would be necessary for arbitrators to have some degree of technical expertise but, here, I am sure the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators would be happy to assist (as a fellow of the institute I must declare an interest).

One of the great advantages of the system would be that it would make the Coal Board concentrate its collective mind and so avoid the force of men being transferred to a colliery which is then closed almost immediately. It would put an end to the semantic arguments in which Mr Scargill appears to delight. It might also bring out imaginative ways of prolonging the life of collieries as co-operatives with local support.

Inquiries are held before a small footpath or road is closed. Surely it is not unreasonable that inquiries should be held before whole communities are closed?

FRANCIS MCWILLIAMS,
212 Gilbert House,
Barbican EC2,
October 3.

Union register's limits

From Mr Peter Thurnham, MP for Bolton North-East (Conservative)

Sir, Is Woodrow Wyatt right to believe that trade union leaders will behave sufficiently democratically with the enactment of the 1984 Act? (feature, September 22).

He compares the election of union leaders to the election of boards of directors by their shareholders. But the crucial difference is that the 1984 Act does not call for the new register of union members' names and addresses to be open to the public. The register is to be closed, known only to the union leaders and to the certification officer — unlike the register of shareholders in a limited liability company, which must be open to the public. It is as if the electoral register itself was available only to the ruling party. What sort of democracy would that be?

This lack of openness weakens the ability of responsible individual trade unionists to use the Government's legislation to overturn

irresponsible actions by their leaders.

This problem has affected the strike over the past four months, by nursery nurses in Bolton, who have been called out on strike by their union, NCU, many of them including those who care for handicapped children, do not wish to strike. But their efforts to organize a return to work, in the face of their employer's closed shop, are frustrated by their difficulties in communicating with each other — the list of names and addresses is not disclosed by either the union or by the council employer, many of whose officers are themselves members of NCU.

For true democracy in the unions, I believe that the register of names and addresses should be open to the public; this should be a minimum requirement in any new legislation to control strikes in essential services.

Yours faithfully,
PETER THURNHAM,
House of Commons,
September 24.

Why Chatsworth art aim failed

From Mr Michael Hirst, PBA

Sir, Your leader of today (October 8), which purports to explain the failure of the British Museum to acquire the Chatsworth drawings and to exonerate it, is not convincing. That the museum is not an investment trust is obvious. But the body of drawings now dispersed was quite exceptional and it was clear to many that the price required by the duke was not inflated. I myself expressed this view to the chairman of the trustees several weeks before the sale took place.

The issue was not a lack of funds to acquire the drawings but a lack of will to find and mobilize funds: most notoriously, the National Art Collections Fund was never consulted.

Your final comment about the ever-increasing ease with which works of art can travel is seriously ill-informed. There is growing concern throughout the world about the conservation hazards involved in the constant movement of fragile works. No panel paintings, for example, were requested by the organizers of the recent exhibition of Venetian art at the Royal Academy, precisely because of the dangers which would be incurred.

Such prudential concern would have been unthinkable fifty years ago; that it is not shared by *The Times* is alarming.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HIRST,
3 Queensdale Place, W11,
October 8.

History of the SOE

From Mr Basil Irwin

Sir, As one who served operationally for SOE in both Yugoslavia and Italy, I am astonished by Mr Beattie's letter (September 29). He seems to suggest that it was exceptional for those who did so to survive.

I understand that, with the possible exception of one person whose disappearance remains unexplained, no SOE personnel were captured and executed by the Germans in these two countries.

Further, fatal operational casualties, which did not exceed 10, were quite remarkably light in relation to the considerable numbers who operated there and the periods during which operations took place.

That those who served in SOE were perforce inexperienced in the type of operations undertaken is obvious. Mistakes were, of course, made. Mr Beattie may speak for himself, but to suggest that the organisation was childishly irresponsible is both absurd and insulting.

It is a pity that the BBC programme on Holland may have given the impression that operations in that country were confined to the *Englandspiel*.

Yours faithfully,
BASIL IRWIN,
The Thatch,
Stansted Mountfitchet,
Essex,
September 30.

Up in the air

From Mr P. J. Diddale

Sir, I do not know how many people are housed in a single tower block, but would guess it equates to or exceeds the number carried in a large airliner.

What I do know is that were major structural faults discovered in such a flying machine, all such types would be grounded immediately, pending thorough inspection.

What is the difference? Yours faithfully,
P. J. DIDDALE,
3 Gaskell Close,
Hollybourne,
Aldon,
Hampshire,
October 2.

VAT on books

From Canon G. B. Bentley

Sir, If I remember rightly it was APH who, when a tax on books was first proposed, prophesied that the Chancellor of the day would go down in history as the first to put a tax on the Word of God.

It appears that Mr Lawson now converts that distinction.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. BENTLEY,
5 The Clarendon,
Windsor Castle,
Berkshire,
October 4.

Threepeenny trash?

From Mr Ossia Trilling

Sir, Your Music Critic's scornful dismissal as "trash" of Ernst Krenek's *Jonny spielt auf*, which had its British premiere in Leeds on Saturday, calls to mind a similar reaction by your then Theatre Critic to the British premiere of Kurt Weill's *Die Dreigroschenoper* at the Royal Court Theatre 30 years ago, when he likened the score to the sort of rubbish that comes out of Tin Pan Alley.

Plus ça change! Yours etc,
OSSIA TRILLING,
9a Portland Place, W1,
October 8.

Pride of place

From Dr E. H. Kronheimer

Sir, Opening the passenger door to let one's wife get into the car is an act neither of eccentricity nor of politeness — merely of self-preservation. Rushing over to do it from the driver's seat is a sure-fire way of putting one's back out.

Yours faithfully,
ERWIN KRONHEIMER,
10 Regent's Park Road, NW1,
October 3.

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\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

FINANCIAL
EXPORT
Millions
into

[illegible]

Burning	132		6.8	5.7	70.8
De Niro	218		4.8	5.7	70.8
Postal	203	++	6.9	4.7	69.9
Reagan	485	+10	6.9	1.4	43.3
Canadian (G.M.)	75		3.4	4.6	71.1
Chapman	223		11.4	4.1	13.9
City (Richard)	159	+2	7.1	2.8	69.9
Country (James)	191		2.9	2.8	8.0
DRG	150		4.4	2.9	15.8
E Lancia Paper	89		3.6	1.2	9.0
Excelsior Prep	181	-10	7.1	2.8	69.9
Green	181		5.7	4.7	70.8
Good Relations	230	+2	5.1	2.2	20.0
McComrade	143		7.3	5.1	69.9
More O'Connell	95	-3	4.9	5.1	13.3
Weather	172				

3	South (left)	137	+1	18.1	9.5	
3	Luther Walker	180		7.9	4.4	10.4
3	Wince	30				4.0
4	Washington (J)	643	+10	22.9	3.2	
4	Westrough	220	•	7.8	3.5	10.4

PROPERTY						
Alfred Lion	97			1.9	2.0	19.9
Apex	118	•		2.9	2.4	24.9
Asquith Sacs	55			2.1	3.8	39.9
Bartholomew	86			2.0	8.8	14.4

Bradford	323	97	30	17.2
Br Land	102	29	2.2	17.3
Brooks	132	69	5.2	21.6
Brown	283	100	10	20.3
Canfield Prop	130	24	1.8	
Centerville	225	85	3.8	17.2
Chambersfield	405	132	3.3	27.2
Churchway	715	215	37	32.4
Clements	131	47	6.8	9.5
Control Space	41	45	11.9	7.3
Country & Hwy	91	1.8	1.9	75.0
Coverly St	71	1.0	3.1	
Cutlins	270	81	3.7	13.1
Danpen	300	17.9	6.0	6.6
Dean Dav	90			
		1.9	8.4	3.7

Estates & Agency	130		4.3	45.9
Estates	88	-2	4.3	45.9
Estates Prop	10	0	11.8	74.3
Estates Of Leeds	71	+1	8.0	9.8
Fairview	147		8.1	5.6
Five Oaks	28			
Fr Portland	164	-2	7.9	48.2
Graydon City	162	-2	2.0	1.0
Hammond Gp	75	+5	7.0	9.8
Hammerson 'A'	458	-2	11.4	37.8
Hammerson 'B'	464	-2	12.7	37.8
Jenny	285		2.4	33.5
Jermaine	203		2.3	18.6
Kent (BGP)	50		1.8	33.3
Laird Prop	268		2.9	35.9
Land Investors	20		1.4	20.7

Lon Shop Prop	183	0	+1	
Lynette	193	7.9	26	27.9
MSPC	185	12.1	3.8	27.7
McMurray	81	6.0	6.8	21.7
McKee Basc	188	0.0	3.6	27.7
Marikins	713	13.8	12.3	18.0
Marlborough	58	10.7	1.2	38.4
Marshall	108	2.2	3.6	2.4
MSBury	70	7.7	7.0	3.2
Montague	245	7.8	3.2	8.1
Municipal	310	8.4	2.1	7.2
Muskegon (H-H)	78	1.7	1.7	1.2
Muskegon	211	14.3	1.3	27.3
New Cornudas	78	1.3	1.7	10.4
Partridge	35	14.8	4.1	18.3
Pawnee	227			

Prop. Secage	131	-1	1.2	1.5
Flagmen	8		0.1	1.5
Flowerhugg	328		4.1	30.1
Flowers & Tompkins	203		10.4	11.8
Furness	232		7.5	4.8
Scott Mill	143		5.4	6.2
South Estates	87		8.1	43.1
St. James	138		11.8	
Stand Sea	158		1.0	35.1
Stirling Quarantine	53		1.4	28.1
Stock Corporation	358		7.8	21.8
St. George	64	-2.4		
Town Centre	47		1.3	34.8
Trinidad Park	170		14.8	12.8
Union	540		14.5	34.4
Waters	275		10.8	

West & City	125	+4	9.3	7.4	8.7
SHIPPING					
Assoc Br Ports	180	● -1	12.1	6.4	8.7
Bt Commonwealth	202				31.1
California	184				48.9
Fisher (Lanes)	57	●	4.4	4.8	12.3
Gray	625		14.3	3.9	3.1
Hunting Green	98		6.8	8.7	5.3
Jackson (J)	41	●	4.4b	8.7	43.6
LIPS	28				
Lyle	28	+1			9.3

	2003		2002	2001
Pepperdine	278	+2	17.9	6.1
Pepperdine South	58		7.5	2.3
Rancho Santa	2		11.4	13.6
Turnbull West	490			

	2003		2002	2001
Gamea Shoe	157	+3	11.7	5.3
Gamea Shoes	46		4.8	3.9
Leather Horse	73		7.2	9.2
Leather Horse	94	+2	5.5	5.8
Plowd & Burton	84		6.8	7.4

TEXTILES						
Alfred Toot	303		+1	18.3	8.4	18.3
Alfred Bros	134	•	-2	7.1	6.3	18.2
Baskin (John)	79			4.3	8.4	6.7
Baskin (A)	98			5.8	5.7	12.0
By Motor	101	•	+5	6.4	6.4	6.0
Butcher & Lorch	70			4.0	2.2	6.0
Carpens Inc	84					
Cosco Fabrics	127		+2	6.0	4.5	7.7
Corn	80	•	-2	5.4	3.3	5.3
Courtenay	133		+1	6.0	4.5	6.3

Dore Hales	118			6.7	6.5	7.9
Dore Hill	52	-1	+1	6.4	5.7	5.2
Foster (John)	50			3.2	7.4	8.1
Franklin Brookings	50			6.3	7.3	8.4
Hickory Park Hotel	30	-2		6.2		
Ingram (Walter)	120					48.0
Jernigan (S)	50		+6	2.6	6.5	11.2
Lewis	105			0.9	6.6	6.7
Lester	57			0.1	6.2	13.2
Lykes (J)	67			6.4	11.7	17.7
Mackay (Miss)	74	-1		6.2	7.7	23.5
Murphy	35			8.3	13.5	12.4
Norcross (Mrs.)	206	-7		9.0	4.4	8.4
O'Neil (Lloyd)	31			2.1	5.6	4.3
Parkland A.	81	-1		6.1		5

Wester	122	•	5.0	7.2	10.0
Small (MC) Tobacco	53		4.0	3.5	10.5
Switzerland (P)	34		2.5	2.0	8.0
Spain	75		2.5	7.0	4.9
Green Valley	31		2.1	2.0	4.8
Yeastland Jersey	63	+	7.7	8.1	8.2
Yeastland	106		6.3	8.6	8.6
Yeastland	51 1/2	+	5.0	7.0	8.7
Yeastland	155	-	7.1	8.5	8.7

TOBACCOS

d. a Ex mil. b Foreign dividend. c Collected on payment received. f Prior to suspension. g Yield includes a special payment. h Not for retransmission figures. i Foreign earnings. j Ex deduction. k Ex rights. l Ex shorts or shares sold. m Ex adjusted for late dealings. No significant

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier bid extended by Carless

1971

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Millions moved by BT's irresistible offer

In its attempt to promote graphically wider share ownership, the Government is doing its best to make the British Telecom issue into an offer which private investors cannot refuse. The carrot dangled in front of small investors are temptingly large.

Buyers can choose either to receive vouchers to pay phone bills, or share bonuses. The vouchers, worth £18 each, are available 18 months after the share sale, up to a maximum of 12, depending on the size of the shareholding. Only one voucher can be used with each quarterly telephone bill but all are valid for 10 months. Their worth, strictly speaking, cannot be included in the yield the shares offer, since the vouchers eventually run out. Kleinwort, Benson, the merchant banker involved, calculated that while the vouchers last, they are worth an annualized return of 10 per cent gross (seven per cent after tax) on top of the conventionally calculated dividend yield.

Alternatively, investors of £5,000 in BT shares or more can choose the share bonus; an extra share for every 10 shares they hold. The only snag is that this "extra" comes after three years, not immediately. The play has been used once before - with the ill-fated Britoil share issue.

Both vouchers and bonus shares are free of income tax. This is especially good for higher rate taxpayers. The bonus shares issued after the three years will be valued at the then market value, not the original launch price. So, if the price has risen, any capital gains tax liability on them is reduced.

Are these carrots having the desired effect? BT has been monitoring the public's response to the promotional campaign, with the help of MORI. So far, of Britain's adult population 78 per cent is aware that BT is being privatized. More surprisingly perhaps, 25 per cent - around 12 million people - are seriously thinking of buying £250 worth or more of BT shares. The number of private shareholders is 1.8 million. How many of the 12 million actually do buy in the end is anyone's guess, but we might be about to witness the biggest single leap towards people's capitalism history has yet seen.

The disappearing BSA rate

The Building Societies Association meeting on Friday could witness the death of the BSA's ailing "recommended" mortgage and investment rates. Since the latest outbreak of fierce competition between societies the old cartel's most visible device no longer serves any useful purpose. It was completely ignored by almost all societies on the last two occasions when mortgage and investment rates went shooting up. Recognizing that it had become a dead letter, the Department of Employment no longer uses the BSA rate in its Retail Price Index calculations.

The societies are just beginning to appreciate the implications of what is happening. To raise rates competitively is easy; to lower them without some sort of

co-ordination is much harder, because the first society to put its investment rates down inevitably loses valuable deposits. This understanding could eventually lead to the reintroduction of some sort of informal agreement between societies over rate movements, but so far there is no sign of it. In the meantime, as many building society managers now recognise, whatever the Halifax does takes on even greater importance than before as a signal to smaller societies.

For the industry as a whole the Halifax, currently, is not sufficiently representative of the market to "fix" the pattern of rates. Its mortgage rates are low, starting at 12.75 per cent, while its investment rates are as high as other societies'. The Halifax's comment that it might consider reducing its investment, but not mortgage, rates if base rates fell was essentially a thought directed to improving its own profit margins.

Base rate cut not long delayed

Disappointing money figures - a rise of up to 1½ per cent in Sterling M3 in the five weeks to mid-September - have presumably dashed a Conservative Party conference cut in bank base rates. No harm in that. Whatever the monetary justification, a cut just this week would have provoked allegations that the Government was playing cynical politics; that its nerve had been broken by unemployment figures and it was ready to do anything quick and easy to boost the economy. Such speculation would have weakened the Chancellor's hand in his struggle with colleagues in the annual spending round, which looks set to be an exceptionally tough one.

As noted here yesterday, the latest setback could lead to a steeper fall in interest rates in a few weeks. Although the September figures take the growth in Sterling M3 to the very top of the Government's target range of 6-10 per cent (and raise the growth of "little Mo", which has been encouragingly low, to 3½ per cent), they bode well for the future. The figures are swollen by a statistical oddity in the interbank item; and by a certain amount of round tripping, estimated to have added between £250m and £750m to the figures.

The first is unlikely to be repeated, the second is likely to unwind in later months, helping to bring the monetary growth rate down sharply. Although public borrowing was disappointingly high, this too should fall pretty sharply; the markets are already coming to appreciate the Bank of England's considerable funding success during the first half of a difficult year.

So three-month inter-bank rates, now elevated to considerable importance on the money instrument panel, rose only a little on publication of the money figures. They were too high to justify a cut in base rates; but suggested that the moment of renewed confidence may not be long delayed. It will be stronger without the complications of Brighton propaganda.

Some banks unhappy with Johnson Matthey rescue

By Jeremy Warner

Several Banks and other organizations involved in the Bank of England's rescue package for Johnson Matthey Bankers, are having second thoughts about the deal.

Some of the banks feel that the package is inequitable and that they are being unfairly asked to participate in the rescue of a bank whose problems they had nothing to do with and which may have been avoidable.

JMB was taken over by the Bank of England last week after possible losses of £150m on loans to commercial customers came to light. The package involved 25 of the biggest banks in London agreeing to provide a £250m line of credit for the bank's parent company Johnson Matthey plc.

In addition, several banks and other financial institutions were persuaded by the Bank of England to agree to meet the losses of up to £60m at Johnson Matthey Bankers, should they occur. The banks, in effect, agreed to indemnify the losses of JMB should they extend beyond a certain level.

It is in this area of the package that the Bank of England is now finding it hard to persuade all the participants to put up their share of the pool.

Banking sources stressed yesterday that there was no danger of the rescue being jeopardized but there was unhappiness in some quarters about the amount of money involved and the terms of the indemnity.

Various banks called on to

participate are also unhappy that the tax position of the indemnity has yet to be clarified. They want to be able to offset the money against tax, but the Inland Revenue has so far refused to accept that this is the correct treatment.

A spokesman for the Revenue said yesterday that supporting banks would receive tax relief only if the money is called upon. "A guarantee is not of itself tax allowable," the Revenue said.

Johnson Matthey Bankers is one of five members of the exclusive London gold market. The other four members have agreed to put up about £7.5m each.

The problems have occurred with banks which believe they are being asked to guarantee too

much considering that they had no connection with JMB or the gold market.

The terms of the rescue have already drawn strong criticism from institutional investors in Johnson Matthey plc and Kleinwort, Benson, the merchant bank, was recently appointed to seek further information on the circumstances of the rescue.

Johnson Matthey Bankers' well publicized problems have not deterred potential buyers for all or part of the group, the Bank of England confirmed yesterday.

Although the Bank is reticent about the precise number and nature of the inquiries by would-be buyers, a Bank spokesman said there had been "a lot".

Dixons offers to talk on Currys bid

By Jonathan Clark

Mr Stanley Kalms, the chairman of Dixons Group, said yesterday that he wanted to sit down and talk with Currys Group about his £180m offer before the bid developed into a battle between the two high street retailers.

"We are determined to succeed but nevertheless it is possible to negotiate a recommendation in the best interests of management, staff and customers," he told shareholders at the annual meeting.

Mr Kalms said afterwards that Currys board had rejected invitations to talk made since the brief initial meeting after the bid was announced last Thursday.

But Mr Terry Curry, Currys' joint managing director, said later: "As I sit here at this moment there is nothing to talk about. If he wants to put something on the table we will talk about it - we're not being bloody-minded about this. But we have no intention of selling the Currys Group."

He also said that the company had had no contact with Dixons since the bid was announced.

Dixons maintains that it had intended to formally negotiate with the Currys board before launching its bid but it was preempted into a premature move by the rapid rise in the Currys share price last week.

The rise in the share price is the subject of a Stock Exchange inquiry.

Mr Kalms also told shareholders that he realized Currys would be able to mount a "spirited defence" and that he expected both a profits forecast and an assets revaluation. But he said that the forecast would be irrelevant unless it was based on trading profits and not just on raiding reserves or on property sales. An asset valuation "provides only a backdrop to the underlying value of a company if it were to be liquidated".

Afterwards he said he thought the strength of the Currys family holdings in the company had been overdone: "I don't dispute the arithmetic of the family holdings (about 35 per cent) but I do dispute whether the whole family will reject our bid."

If the Dixons bid is successful the Currys name will be retained and the chain maintained largely intact with rationalization only where there is an obvious clash of sites, he said.

The Dixons bid document is expected at the end of this week. Dixons' retail sales were 35 per cent ahead in the first 21 weeks of the present year compared with a year ago.

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Brown Bear seller and buyer, Northcott (left) and Harris

Harris expands after £12m interim profits

By Christopher Dunn

Harris Queensway, the fast-growing carpets and furniture group, yesterday unveiled two eye-catching deals after announcing record interim profits of £12m (£9.3m).

The group plans to build up a new 60-strong edge-of-town electrical hardware chain called Ultimate. Mr Phil Harris, Harris Queensway's chairman, said that Ultimate would compete directly with Comet Radiovision, the electrical discount store chain snatched from under the group's nose by Woolworth earlier this year in a bitter bid battle.

"We were disappointed not to get Comet, but we knew that its profits were bound to take a slight dip. That's why we didn't bid up for the group against Woolworth," Mr Harris said.

The Ultimate deal, a joint venture with Debenhams, should cost around £10m. The first store will open in November, and a further five early next year. "We have been looking at this project for over a year", Mr

Harris said. "The stores are beautifully designed. You can't miss them."

Harris Queensway also announced it was buying Loxmill, the holding company for Richard Northcott's latest retailing venture, Brown Bear, for £5.5m.

Mr Northcott, who sold the Dodge City DIY chain to Woolworth for £20m three years ago, started Brown Bear last year. He aimed to sell furniture in a complete room setting, which the customer could take away *en bloc*.

For the six months to March 31 1984, the six Brown Bear furniture superstores registered a loss of £945,000 on net assets worth £1.98m. This figure compares with an institutional injection of some £3m start-up capital, in the spring.

Harris Queensway is paying an interim dividend of 1.25p (1.125p). City analysts now hope to see full-year profits in the region of £33m (£25.6m).

Tempos, page 20

Sketchley to expand by franchising

By Derek Harris

Sketchley Cleaners, one of the top two dry-cleaning chains, plans to expand through franchising in parts of Britain it has not yet penetrated, starting with Lancashire and Yorkshire.

With the cleaning chain contributing nearly half of Sketchley group's pretax profits - £10.8m for the group last time - the chain stands to net in royalties from a likely 100 franchised outlets about £1.2m annually on today's prices. Of that, 40 per cent would be ploughed back into promotion, leaving the chain with a clear £720,000.

Sketchley is venturing into franchising for the first time, partly because it wants faster growth than would be possible by extending its present company-operated chain of nearly 500 outlets, concentrated mostly in the Midlands and the South.

Mr Peter Dobbie, group marketing director and acting managing director of the British retail cleaning operation, said: "The other factor is that this is a people business. A cleaning outlet runs well as an integrated operation, relying on one or two key people."

Sketchley still plans to open further outlets of its own. New ones were recently opened in Leicester and High Wycombe. In the first year, Sketchley aims to set up six franchises, with about £64,000 investment for each outlet. The franchisee will have to find a minimum of £20,000 in cash, including a once-and-for-all licence fee of £5,000.

Another 12 franchised outlets are targeted in the next year, with a further 20 the following year, eventually rising to 100.

Account law for Lloyd's

The concept of "true and a fair" view accounting became mandatory for Lloyd's of London syndicates this week when Lloyd's Council approved the Syndicate Accounting By-law, which requires the preparation of syndicate annual reports. (Alison Eadie writes.)

The by-law helps bring the insurance market into line with company law and substantially improves standards of accounting and accountability, according to Lloyd's chief executive, Mr Ian Hay Davidson.

Because of Lloyd's three-year lag in preparing accounts, the by-law is retrospective and becomes effective for annual reports prepared in 1985 for 1984 results. However, the "true and fair" view requirement will not become mandatory until 1986 for 1985 results, because it would be impossible to achieve such accounts for about 30 per cent of Lloyd's syndicates in 1982.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1136.8 down 2.4 (high: 1142.4; low: 1136.5)
FT Index: 958.2 down 0.4
FT All Share: 935.44 down 0.39
Bergsma: 19.422
Daimler-Benz: 108.74 up 0.13
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1183.74 up 5.85
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,668.71 down 8.22
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index: 982.38 up 18.88
Amsterdam: 177.0 up 0.8
Sydney: AO Index 742.6 down 2.7
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1069.0 up 0.5

CURRENCIES

London Close

Sterling Index 78.3 down 0.1 (range 78.5-79.3)
DM 3.290 down 70pts
DM 3.7850 up 0.02
FF 11.8225 up 0.06
Yen 304.25 down 1.0
Dollar Index 142.4 up 0.5
DM 3.0855 up 0.0335

NEW YORK LATEST

Dollar DM 3.0882

ECU/N/A

SDR 20.803524

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 10%
Finance houses base rate 11%
Discount market loans week fixed 10½-10%
3 month interbank 10% - 10½%

Euro-currency rates:

3 month DM 5½% - 5¾%

3 month FF 11½% - 11¾%

US rates

Fed funds 11½%

Treasury long bond 10¾% - 10¾%

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

am \$341.25 pm \$341

close \$340.50 - \$41 (\$276.75 - \$277.25)

New York (settle): \$340.10

Kruggerand (per coin): \$350.50 - \$352 (\$285 - \$286)

Sovereigns (new): \$80.50 - \$81.50 (\$65.75 - \$66.50)

*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier bid extended by Carless

Carless Capel has again extended its one-for-three share offer for Premier Consolidated, this time until October 17. Acceptances so far are a paltry 1.77 per cent, but Mr John Leonard, Carless's chairman, said he was pressing ahead with his campaign to persuade Premier shareholders of the merits of the merger.

● **BOWTHORPE HOLDINGS**, the electronics company with substantial overseas interests, has turned in record half-year profits, up by 44 per cent from £6.9m to £9.9m. Turnover has risen by 27.5 per cent to £52.6m. The interim dividend has been increased from 1.840p to 2.070p.

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● **CHRISTIES INTERNATIONAL**, the fine art auctioneer, has increased pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 to £7.7m, up from £4.1m. Turnover increased from £21.2m to £28.6m. The board has declared an interim dividend of 3p against 2.5p last time.

Tempos, page 20

● **BRITISH AEROSPACE** has won another American order for its 146 airliner, Air Wisconsin, a leading US regional carrier, is to pay £12m for a 100-passenger version of the aircraft, its seventh. The order comes only 10 days after Aspen Airways, of Denver, Colorado, placed a £25m order for two.

● **FOUR STC directors** are to join the board of ICL as a result of the agreed merger between the two companies.

● **MR JAMES PRIOR**, former Northern Ireland Secretary and now head of the GEC group, has also been asked to rejoin the board of United Biscuits, the snacks and McVitie's biscuits group, as a non-executive director.

● **GOLD** will average \$450 an ounce next year, a report from Amalgamated Metal Trading, the London brokers, says.

Nigeria agrees \$2bn deal

By John Lawless

Nigeria and the world's export credit agencies have done a remarkable deal over the country's \$2 billion (£1.6 billion) worth of short-term trade debts. In effect, the deal allows many companies to decide whether they want to renounce their insurance claims against the agencies.

It has been agreed that creditors with verified claims will have to go through the normal agency channels for recompense, but will receive 1 per cent interest over London inter-bank offered rate (Libor) on what they are owed from Nigeria.

That agreement, without a

Paris Club rescheduling contract in place, is unusual enough. However, the way in which companies with difficulty in proving their claims are to be treated is extraordinary.

They will have to decide whether they wish to give up insurance organizations such as Britain's Export Credits Guarantee Department.

If they opt for this, and have no substantial disagreement with Nigeria over the validity of their debts, they will be offered six-year promissory notes on exactly the same lines as those offered to uninsured trade creditors last April.

Tempos, page 20

Suspended chief offers to purchase Espley for £10m

By William Kay

City Editor

The world of Mr Ron Shuck has come crashing about his ears. At the start of this year he was chairman of two public companies with a combined stock market value of more than £26m.

One, Associated Telecommunications, has had its quote suspended for two months pending a deal valuing it at under £1m. Yesterday, the other, Espley Trust, announced that it had suspended Mr Shuck from executive duties and that he had countered with a cash takeover bid putting a tag of £9.8m on Espley.

It is clear that the boardroom atmosphere at Espley has deteriorated rapidly in the month since Mr Shuck, an ebullient former rugby player, handed over the chairmanship to Mr Ronnie Aitken, who is widely respected as a company "doctor".

Yesterday's statement said that Mr Shuck had been suspended "pending the completion of investigations relating to certain properties in Scotland". He remains a director.

City sources suggested that this extraordinary move was



Ron Shuck: position reserved

prompted in part by the Bank of Scotland and Barclays Bank, who together have lent about £15m to Espley.

The properties in Scotland were formerly owned by Carron, the Falkirk foundry group which went bust several years ago. They were sold to Espley by a private company called Foxbridge. Some attempt is being made to ascertain the exact ownership of Foxbridge, which is based on the Isle of Man.

Espley is a property company with interests in the United

Kingdom, US and Belgium. Mr Shuck has been selling the United Kingdom properties this year in an attempt to convert it into an industrial company. But the shares plunged in July when the board passed the final dividend. They have fallen from 97p to 20p at one stage.

Mr Aitken said yesterday: "It's a bit of a dog's dinner. I have not had a row with Mr Shuck, but he did not go quietly. I felt it was correct and right to suspend him, but these things have given me no pleasure whatsoever. Absolutely none."

The new chairman plans to extend the sales programme by disposing of Espley's 43 per cent stake in American Property Group, which has valuable interests in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and its Belgium operation, Codic. "You have got to be a rather larger baby than Espley is before you can run outside your own cabbage patch," Mr Aitken remarked. "It is a question of the company's survival."

"I cannot comment on that or any other matters," Mr Shuck said. "I have to reserve my position on the question of further disposals."

LAST ORDERS, PLEASE.

75% first year capital allowances will pass into history at midnight on 31st March 1985 - a date soon to be upon us.

But for the present, they are still available. And our ability to obtain them means that we can provide more advantageous terms for a three, five or seven year leasing contract than will be possible after 1st April 1985.

Remember, for many companies, tax based leasing is more cost effective than other forms of medium term finance. But, for 75% capital allowances, it will soon be 'last orders, please!'

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TENNIS

American who was born again

Pat Cash of Australia, the third seed, was knocked out of the first round of the Australian indoor championships in Sydney yesterday, beaten 7-6, 4-6, 6-4 by Ben Testerman, of the United States ranked 50th in the world.

Testerman, a born-again Christian, ended expectations of a match between Cash and the top seed Ivan Lendl, who clashed in the US Open earlier this year when the Czechoslovak won a tough five-set semi-final. Testerman, ranked 193rd a year ago, attributed his success to a new outlook on life.

"There are two reasons my play has improved so much this year. The first is that I have really dedicated myself to the game. I've really started working on the finer points. The second, he said, was becoming a Christian a year ago. God has filled a void in his life which tennis could not. "I now use the talents God has given me to the best of my ability. I have more peace, a self-control in my game."

Testerman defeated Cash earlier this year in a grand prix tournament at Cincinnati shortly before the US Open. He also took John McEnroe to five sets in last year's French Open. He lost in straight sets to the American in the same tournament this year.

Cash was bitterly disappointed and said he was looking forward to a 10-day break from the circuit after another indoor tournament in Melbourne starting on Sunday. "First rounds are always pretty tough," he said. "I just didn't find my rhythm. I'm very disappointed but I guess I've just got to forget about it."

"I'm getting to the stage where I don't care if I'm No 1 or No 100 on the computer. I need to wind down for a while, otherwise I'd end up in a basket case."

Testerman rocked Cash when he took the first set, winning the tie-break 7-2. Cash was more confident in the second set, moving quickly around the court, although Testerman maintained a high percentage of first serves. Cash took the set 6-4 and started brightly on the third to lead 4-2, but Testerman broke back in the eighth game to level 4-4 and then closed out the next two games to take the match.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The US Tennis Association are satisfied with a proposal by the Swedish Tennis Federation to hold the Davis Cup Final in Sweden from December 28 to 30. They say it would conflict with Christmas and New Year holidays.

Ed Fabricus, a spokesman for USTA, said they had suggested that the final be moved to December 14 to 16 but there had been no response from Sweden. As hosts Sweden can unilaterally set the date for the final.

After the US beat Australia last month to reach the final, their captain, Arthur Ashe, indicated that they would refuse to play the Swedes during the Christmas holidays. John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors also said that they did not want to play during that period.

Fabricus said Connors and McEnroe were again expected to play singles for the US. "Jimmy said he would do his utmost to play, even though his wife is expecting their second child between December 3 and December 17," Fabricus said.

Paul Schochet, of the United States, ranked 10th in the world, will be the No 1 seed in next week's Stuttgart grand prix tournament, the organizers announced. Though last year's winner, Magnus Navratilova, is missing, the event is the strongest the event has ever attracted.

Regis holds fire on Coventry move and takes a back seat

Cyrille Regis, the West Bromwich Albion forward at the centre of transfer talks with Coventry City, will not play for Albion against Wigan in the Milk Cup second round, second leg, at the Hawthorns tonight.

Regis is having treatment for a slight groin strain, but Johnny Giles, the manager, has already ruled him out because of his transfer situation.

Robertson, who has a thigh strain, faces a late fitness test, while Morley waits to see if he is recalled after being dropped at Liverpool on Saturday.

Morley's former club, Aston Villa, may make an enforced change for their return tie with Scunthorpe United, of the fourth division, at Villa Park.

Graham Turner, the manager, had an injury-free squad after a 3-0 win over Manchester United, but Evans, his captain, ricked his neck in training.

The Scottish defender now looks like missing his first game of the season, Foster, unhappy at being left out of the side on Saturday, will return if Evans fails a late fitness test.

Didier Six, Villa's French international, plays his second game as Villa lead 3-2 from the first leg, and Turner may also give a full game to Mark Walters, the England Under-21 forward.

Brian Clough has delayed naming his Nottingham Forest team for their tie against Portsmouth at the City ground.

With Forest trailing 1-0 from the first leg, Clough is considering whether to make changes. He could recall Gary Mills, who missed the weekend draw against Stoke because of food poisoning.

Shaun Elliott the Sunderland captain, who was carried off at Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday, is ruled out of the tie at Crystal Palace.

Elliott has a knee ligament injury and along with Proctor stays behind for treatment. But Gayle, who missed the 2-2 draw at Hillsborough, trained yesterday and, if there he has no reaction to a knee injury, will return to the attack.

Leeds United have no injury worries for their tie against Gillingham at Elland Road. Ritchie and Wright team up again as forwards, with McCloskey as substitute.

Leeds are 2-1 up from the first leg but Eddie Gray, the manager, said that they would not be taking anything for granted against their third division rivals.

Sheffield United are hoping to get Standcliffe, their captain, fit the match at Everton. Standcliffe is doubtful with a groin injury.

John Hawley, Bradford City's leading scorer failed a fitness test on a shin injury.

Terry Gennos, the Blackburn Rovers goalkeeper, who broke his nose in a 3-1 win against Shrewsbury on Saturday, may be fit to play against Oxford United at Manor Road.

The first leg was a 1-1 draw. Norwich are banking on experience to see off the challenge of third division Preston at Carrow Road.

Former internationals Asa Hartford and Mike Channon look ready to play, with Hartford making his Norwich debut.

The 33-year-old midfielder player has been training with the club and can play tomorrow on a non-contract basis. Norwich would then sign him in time for him to make his league debut at Sunderland.

Channon, who has been out for five weeks with achilles tendon trouble, looks likely to replace Mark Farrington in attack. Goalkeeper Chris Woods has recovered from knee injury and takes over from Joe Corrigan, who is on loan.

Regis: groin strain

Regis: groin strain

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FOOTBALL: INJURY WORRIES FOR THE FIRST DIVISION TEAMS IN TONIGHT'S MILK CUP ENCOUNTERS



McGhee: making his mark at last in West Germany

McGhee grows into Hamburg's No 1

Hamburg (Reuters) - The giants of the past loom large at SV Hamburg, traditionally one of Europe's greatest clubs, but Mark McGhee shows no sign of being dwarfed by it all.

The former Aberdeen striker, who scored a goal against Southampton in the UEFA Cup last week, has the unenviable task of filling a No 9 shirt broadened by the stature of its previous wearers, Horst Hrubesch and Uwe Seeler.

If Hamburg supporters demand much of their centre forwards, they expect even more of a new arrival from Britain who must inevitably bear comparison with the man they named "Mighty Mouse", Kevin Keegan, of England.

Hamburg's sluggish start to the season and McGhee's failure to score in his first six games put him under pressure that has broken players in the past, but the modest McGhee refused to go under and, with a goal in each of his last three games, he is convincing supporters and media that he is capable of living up to the demands made upon him.

McGhee had hardly arrived here when one newspaper was complaining that he was "not a personality like Keegan". The Scot's recipe for dealing with such pressure is to "shut it off". "If it doesn't worry me, I'm honest, I don't feel any pressure," he said. "If anyone wants to compare me with Kevin Keegan, then I'm delighted. He was a great player."

The media had mercilessly attacked Dieter Schatzschneider, a big-money signing last year as an immediate replacement for the departing Jürgen Hennrich, even though he finished as the club's top scorer last season with 15 goals. The disenchanted forward left for Schalke 04, leaving the centre-forward position vacant for McGhee.

The situation looked almost desperate until McGhee's failure to score. "It doesn't worry me, I don't score - it never has," McGhee said. "I once went 21 or 22 games without scoring for Aberdeen and I was never left

out of the team for playing badly. "It seems that teams somehow demand more of a centre forward in West Germany. They expect him to be the man to score most of the goals. But the trainer [Ernst Happel] and manager [Günter Netzer] have given me no pressure and they are the ones I feel I have to answer to. I know I can play - I'll give 100 per cent and, hopefully, I'll score a few goals too."

Although Keegan was twice European Footballer of the Year during his three seasons with Hamburg, he struggled to gain acceptance in his first season. McGhee plans to avoid Keegan's early problems. "I don't intend to take a year to settle in," he said. "At 27 I can't afford a year messing-around."

McGhee, who is taking German lessons, says he has been welcomed by his teammates, many of whom speak English. He, his wife Jacqueline and his two-year-old son Mark have settled in well.

"I had a lot of offers at the end of last season," he said. "Celtic and Tottenham were interested, and there were feelers from Italy, but when Hamburg came in I had no hesitation. This is a great club and I feel I can achieve something here."

McGhee became a player by accident. Spotted by a Bristol City scout as a schoolboy, he joined the English club on apprentice terms purely to escape the concrete jungle of his new town life near his native Glasgow. He returned to Scotland after two years to play for Motherwell. Newcastle United, who were bottom of the English first division, signed him in 1977.

He failed to win a regular place with the struggling club and returned to Scotland for five successful years with Aberdeen, in which he picked up a European Cup Winners' Cup medal, two League Championship medals and three Scottish Cup medals as well as being once voted Scottish Player of the Year.

United's handsome financial reward

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Manchester United are now officially the richest club in the land. At their annual general meeting on November 1 they will announce a British record profit of £1,731,000 for the year ending on May 31. The figure includes a surplus of almost £750,000 on transfers and compensations for the injuries that led to Coppell's premature retirement.

The sum does not include the fees paid for their three new signings - Olsen, Strachan, and Brazil - but they are almost balanced by the £1.4m transfer of Wilkins to AC Milan. It does include hefty salaries. One employee received more than £105,000 and another over £85,000. The reason for United's wealth lies in the clicking of the turnstiles at Old Trafford. When the rule governing the distribution of gate money was altered in favour of home clubs at the beginning of last season, it was inevitable that they would benefit and they have done so spectacularly.

In two years they have recovered from a deficit of £2.2m. Martin Edwards, United's chairman, attributes the substantial turnaround to last season's average home attendance of 42,532 as well as their run in the European Cup Winners' Cup, which was ended by Juventus in the semi-final.

United are already in the second

round of the UEFA Cup where they are drawn against attractive Dutch opponents in PSV Eindhoven, and their crowds have grown even bigger. The average so far is remarkable 33,400. Only one other fixture, between Arsenal and Liverpool, has attracted more than 50,000 spectators this season.

The next three games at Old Trafford are likely to surpass that mark as well, since the visitors are West Ham United, Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal, all currently above them in the first division table. United, with by far the strongest support in the country, are the leading members of two elite groups.

It is estimated that a mere dozen League clubs add in debt (the other 80 owe a total of about £40m) and only four of them, United, Liverpool, Arsenal and Tottenham, can afford to buy anything on offer in the market place. They are the quartet that has formed a so-called Super League.

United, encouragingly, are not smiling only with self-satisfaction. Mr Edwards revealed that the club is spending £1m on ground improvements, including an office block that will be completed before the end of the year. Eight new boxes, each accommodating about 20 people and a new sponsors room, are also being built.

United aim for their fourth final

Hearts attempt to bridge a 22-year gap when they meet Dundee United tonight for a place in the Scottish Cup final at Hampden Park on October 28.

The Edinburgh club have not reached the final since 1962, when they beat Kilmarnock to win the League Cup but they start the semi-final second leg with the odds stacked heavily against them.

Dundee United, contesting their sixth successive League Cup semi-final, are favourites to go through to a fourth final after winning 2-1 at Tynecastle a fortnight ago.

However, Alex MacDonald, the Hearts player-manager, said yesterday that the best thing that happened to us was to beat Rangers on Saturday. That win has put us in the right frame of mind for going to Tynecastle.

"We have bailed the side in the league and I feel we are due a break or two against United.

Hearts are likely to be unchanged following Saturday's 1-0 victory over Rangers, but Jim McLean, who Dundee United manager delays his selection to give the captain, Paul Hegarty, and Ralph Milne time to recover from injuries.

Withe will not be suspended

The Aston Villa forward, Peter Withe, yesterday won his mistake immunity before an FA disciplinary hearing in London and escapes suspension.

But his club colleague, Paul Rideout, now faces a ban after admitting he was the guilty man and will be charged with bringing the game into disrepute.

Withe was sent off in a 3-0 defeat at Ipswich on September 29 by Aldershot referee, David Lewis, for allegedly making an obscene gesture at a linesman. He had earlier been booked. Rideout later admitted he was the offender and Withe submitted written evidence to the FA on this basis.

The disciplinary committee have decided to transfer the "bookable offence" to Rideout. An FA spokesman said: "Withe will not be required to serve a suspension, but a charge will be preferred against Rideout in accordance with the provisions of FA rule 33A (section 9)."

The Villa full back, Colin Gibson, who was also sent off in the match at Ipswich, received a one-match ban and misses the game at Everton on Saturday. The Villa manager, Graham Taylor, said he did not wish to comment on the decision.

Rideout: guilty party

Wrexham's first leg in Rome

Wrexham will have to play the first leg of their European Cup Winners' Cup second-round tie against AS Roma in Italy after all. It will be on October 26, with the return match at the Racecourse Ground on November 7.

The fourth division club had originally agreed to switch dates to give themselves home advantage in the first leg, but their chairman, Pryce Griffiths, said yesterday that Roma could not agree to the change because of administrative problems.

The fourth division match between Wrexham and Northampton Town has been switched from October 23 to Tuesday, October 16, because of Wrexham's European Cup Winners' Cup commitments.

Schools football

Second-half winner

By George Chesterton

Wellington Borough Alderham 2-1

A goal by Ingherwood in the second half enabled Wellington Borough to win a finely balanced school match. The goal was scored by Alderham, who were quick onto the ball, but it was Wellington who scored the winning goal in the 75th minute.

Aldersham equalized within minutes when Davies neatly controlled a cross from the right and fired it into the goal.

Wellingborough, who had the slope and wind on their side, fought back and scored a second goal in the 85th minute. The match was a close-run thing, with both sides showing good use of their wings.

Tuesday's Wellington captain, remained calm in a defence which was not far from perfect.

Wellingborough's manager, Mr. Davies, said: "We were very pleased with the result. The boys played well and showed a lot of character."

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IN BRIEF

Kelly beats Fignon to golden award

Sean Kelly, who won his thirty-first race of the season, the Blois-Chaville classic, on Sunday, has won the Challenge d'Or award for his overall performance this season.

The award, organized by two Paris newspapers, is based on riders' performances in eight races. Kelly beat this year's Tour winner Laurent Fignon, of France, into second place with Bernard Hinault third and Ireland's Stephen Roche fourth.

MARATHON: A record 70,105 people went to run in the 1985 London Marathon, according to the final figures. More than 13,000 completed forms came in on the two days before applications closed. The organizers will now select the 22,000 who will take part in the marathon, to be run on April 21, 1985.

CROSS-COUNTRY: Kenya will send their national team to Galeshead's international meeting on November 24. It includes three Olympians: John Nkomo, Joseph Chabire who finished fourth in the 1,500 metres, Paul Kipkoech, who ran in the 5,000 metres, and the steeplechaser, Julius Karuri.

SKIPPING: Irene Epke, of West Germany, has decided not to retire after all. She will continue on the women's World Cup circuit for one more winter. Miss Epke, aged 27, announced her retirement last winter, after a persistent knee injury. However, she resumed skiing to get fit again after an operation. She enjoyed it so much she had decided to return.

GLIDING: The British team for the 1985 world gliding championships at Rieti, Italy, is Andy Davis, aged 28, the youngest member of the team and the current British second class national champion. Ralph Jones, the current British open class national champion and Justin Wells. The first reserve is Martyn Wells.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Fulham are allowing under-16s, pensioners and students into Saturday's second division game with Huddersfield for 50 pence, in a bid to boost the attendance at their new Crystal Palace ground.

SNOOKER: Tony Knowles recovered from the effects of his 9-2 defeat by Steve Davis in the final of the Jameson International on Sunday, to go through to the last 32 of the Robertsons against a Bristol yesterday. Knowles beat Vic Harris 3-1 in the first round of the world's richest tournament.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Wales call in O'Brien

Chris O'Brien, the Bridgend and former Oldham player, wins promotion to Wales in the international against England at Ebbw Vale on Sunday.

O'Brien steps up from his original role as substitute to a place in the pack where he will allow Brian Jullif of Wigan to switch to loose forward for the unfit John Bevan of Warrington.

Australian players Chris Anderson and Gavin Miller fly in to join Hull Kingston Rovers' champions and premier holders, this weekend.

Anderson, 30, was a winger with the 1982 undefeated Kangaroos side and played for Widnes in 1983. Miller, 24, is a back row forward with Sydney club Eastern Suburbs.

Sheffield Eagles, who picked up their first away win of the season at Batley on Sunday, have signed two New Zealand players, a 22-year old stand off and Geoff Morton.

Wolstenholme dies at 53

Guy Wolstenholme, one of Britain's foremost artists, died at the age of 53, after a long illness, in a Nottingham hospital, aged 53.

Wolstenholme, who came from Lancashire, was a member of the 1950s and 1960s pop art movement. He was a close friend of the late Roy Lichtenstein.

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India undaunted by defeats, Gavaskar says

Bombay, (Reuters) - Sunil Gavaskar, India's captain, undaunted by his team's defeats by Australia in the first two Tests, said yesterday that India would do well against Pakistan on the forthcoming tour.

"We are not worried about the defeats," he said. "We are confident that we will win the series."

Gavaskar, whose side were 2-0 up in the one-day series, said: "We are confident that we will win the series."

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A famous victory goes to the wildest

It is a pity that apart from some charming illustrations, the book contains no photographs of the birds. People would really like to know what this remarkable man looked like. His face was extraordinarily expressive. Very odd.

On the whole, however, Major Vane and his publishers have served Sawyer well, which cannot be said of the new paperback.

Sawyer's *Nymphs and the Trout*, (Adam and Charles Black, 26.95 paperback).

The photography is of uneven quality, the captions are lacking an explanation, so that modern readers will not know what size of hooks or weight of lines Sawyer used, and to add insult to injury, to those who knew of the author's life, the photographs on the front cover is not of Sawyer, but of Oliver King.

Major Vane links all this with comments of his own - a difficult formal compared with the straight biography which ought to be written - but it does further our knowledge of this complex yet simple man.

What comes over clearly is Sawyer's passionate devotion to the river which eventually became his charge, his stubborn persistence, his more-than-sensational ability to study and observe. He was one of those rare creatures a born genius.

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Passions of a poacher turned keeper

Taken from any viewpoint, Frank Sawyer was a remarkable man. He came from a family of sbs, had little education, began life as a farm labourer who had been banned from riverside for poaching, and ended it as a world-renowned river keeper.

He was a man of great character, a friend of the famous, an enthusiast, a poet of distinction, and creator of one of the most famous of all fly patterns - the pheasant tail nymph which is now fished almost everywhere from Nova Scotia to Japan. How did he do it?

The origins are at least partially revealed in a new book by a friend of Sawyer's, Sidney Vane, *Man of the River* (Allen and Unwin, 29.95 paperback). Half of the book is a collection of Sawyer's personal letters, his more-than-sensational ability to study and observe. He was one of those rare creatures a born genius.

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MOTOR SPORT

Monaco erased from the map and rally faces similar fate

Paris (AP) - The Monaco Grand Prix has been removed from the next year's Formula One racing calendar and the Monte Carlo Rally is under threat. But since the Monaco race has been replaced by the Principality has applied to the French government to join the international motor sports federation (FISA) over television rights, sources said privately that the grand prix may yet be held.

The Grand Prix, first run on the streets of Monte Carlo in 1929, is the oldest European-style track race still held on its original circuit and the rally, dating back to 1911, the oldest road event.

Monaco were not given a championship race next year because of their dispute over television rights. Jean-Marie Balestre, the president of FISA, said, And Monaco Automobile Club have until October 26 to pay their neighbouring French club, of which Balestre is also president, one million francs for the rally passing through France.

Monaco were warned by FISA last March that they must conform to 1981 agreement of all grand prix organizers, under which television rights are held by FISA and operated by the Formula One Constructors' Association (FOCA). Monaco were exempted until last year because of an existing contract with the American Broadcasting Company. Balestre said they signed a new agreement with ABC in violation of the accord and an interim agreement with the FOCA did not remedy the situation.

The Monaco Grand Prix aroused controversy on June 3, when the commission, Jacky Ickx, halted the race after 31 laps of the 77 laps because of rain.

Prost picks up an extra point

Paris (Reuters) - Alain Prost of France moved one point closer to Niki Lauda of Austria in the race for the Formula One drivers' championship following a points adjustment announced by the international motor sport federation (FISA) yesterday.

Prost, who topped up on his McLaren team-mate Lauda after winning Sunday's European Grand Prix at the Nurburgring, was awarded an extra point as a result of the disqualification of the Tyrrell driver, Martin Brundle, from the race.

Prost finished fifth in Detroit but was moved up to fourth place yesterday following a decision by FISA's Executive Committee meeting at their Paris headquarters for the past two days.

Prost now has 62.5 points, just 3.5 behind Lauda, with one race - the Portuguese Grand Prix at Estoril - remaining.

Prost finished fifth in Detroit but was moved up to fourth place yesterday following a decision by FISA's Executive Committee meeting at their Paris headquarters for the past two days.

BOXING

Fossey's way leads past Romanus to greatness

By Srikumar Seh

Boxing Correspondent

Sylvester Mittee, the Bethnal Green welterweight who returned to boxing after a long hiatus, has his career mapped out all the way to a world title bout. All he needs is a title that will give him status and open the right doors for him. He gets that chance tonight when he meets Fighting Romanus of Nigeria, for the Commonwealth title, at the Britannia Leisure Centre, Shore-ditch.

For a man who has been promoted a bout with the former world light-welterweight champion, Jonny Bonhag, Mittee is bound to go all out to show that he really is in another class.

Romanus can expect those looping blows from Mittee to start flying early.

Mittee's trainer, Ernie Fossey, said "Romanus is a good boxer if you let him box at his own rhythm. Sylvester will have to sit on him right away. He will walk up and let go of the big, big shots. That should be the plan."

The Nigerian is very much an unknown quantity, never having boxed outside West Africa. There is, however, one opponent that the two men have in common: Jedis.



Mittee: world title aim

Clottey. Romanus lost to him on points while Mittee stopped him in two rounds.

Nevertheless, if Mittee does not manage to subdue Romanus quickly and he does pick himself up, Fossey can start worrying. Romanus got up off the floor against the Nigerian light-middleweight champion, Philip Adeleye, and won. Clearly Romanus can box. He was trained as an amateur by Hogan Basse, the former world featherweight champion, and would have gone to the Montreal Olympics had the Africans not boycotted the Games.

On the supporting bill, Dennis Andrews, of Hackney, defends his light-heavyweight title against Devon Bonley, of Battersea. Andrews, having in front of his home crowd for the first time and seeking to make the Lonsdale Belt his own, should prove a tough proposition for the Rolls Royce mechanic. Andrews is strong and can punch.

The sides were due to play the first of their five games in the series here last night.

BASEBALL

Tigers stalk the Padres

San Diego (Reuters) - The Detroit Tigers, who swept through the American League virtually unchallenged, are contesting the sport's blue ribbon event, the World Series, with the San Diego Padres, who staged a dazzling comeback to win the National League championship.

The Tigers, who led the American League Eastern Division from the opening day and beat the Western division champions, Kansas City

Royals, in three straight games, are favoured to win their first World Series since 1908.

The Padres, the first National League team to win a best-of-five championship series after losing the first two games, will be in their first series since the team was formed in 1969.

The sides were due to play the first of their five games in the series here last night.

Omission of Hill may not please England

By David Hands

Rugby Correspondent

Richard Hill, England's current scrum half, has been overlooked by the South and South West divisional selectors, who yesterday named their team to play the Australians at Exeter on October 20.

The Bristol half backs, Harding and Barnes, have been picked as a successful club pairing, the strength of their case being allied to the selection at No 8 of Hesford, their club colleagues, whose understanding with Harding is an important feature of Bristol's success.

Yet the decision to ignore Hill will win few friends and is unlikely to impress all the national selectors, particularly those who saw Hill work his way to two caps on the summer tour of South Africa.

There had been a reaction in Hill's game this season. It would have been understandable for a player who achieved so much in such a short time. Yet he is still performing well in a successful club side and did as much as anyone could wish behind a badly beaten England pack in the game against the world XV at Twickenham last month.

It is to be hoped that he will reply to the selectors' decision in an emphatic manner on Saturday, on Somerset's behalf, when he comes up against Middlesex, of Yorkshire, the man most likely to contest his claims to the England position in the long term.

There are eight Bath players in the divisional side, which will be captained by Mills, the Gloucester hooker. Rodman, the 20-year-old Bath lock, will jump in the middle of the line, an area where the Australians are expected to be strong - another reason for choosing the height of Hesford rather than the sheer industry of the shorter Gloucester player, Teague.

Among those who have disappeared from view since the division's defeat against the New Zealanders last year are Horton, Boyle and Gledhill. Presumably is related to the replacements' bench and Blackaway is injured.

Two other divisional sides were announced yesterday: the Midlands, who play Leicester at Coventry next Tuesday, and the North, who meet Ulster at Ravenhill the following day. The Midlands, who play the Australians on November 6, have resigned Wheeler, who is captain and after only one senior game for Leicester this season, and have also called into the squad

RUGBY UNION: SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST AND MIDLANDS WARM UP FOR VISIT OF AUSTRALIANS



Hill: Performing well in successful Bath side.

Wilkes, the Coventry tight-head prop. Cook, the Nottingham back row, and Wells, the promising Leicester flanker.

Midlands, too, have overlooked a recent England scrum half in choosing Thomas of Coventry ahead of Youngs, of Leicester; but they have the opportunity to change their minds after meeting Leicester.

There is an experimental look to the North play the Australians on November 28 at Waterford.

SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST DIVISION: Bath (Exeter), Gloucester (Gloucester), Leicester (Leicester), Northampton (Northampton), Oxford (Oxford), Somerset (Somerset), Wiltshire (Wiltshire), Worcester (Worcester).

MIDLANDS DIVISION: Leicester (Leicester), Northampton (Northampton), Oxford (Oxford), Somerset (Somerset), Wiltshire (Wiltshire), Worcester (Worcester).

CRICKET: FINAL FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES FOR 1984 SEASON

Batsmen revel but bowlers toil in a long hot summer

By Marcus Williams

Batsmen revelled in the long, hot summer of 1984 and the final first-class averages for the season, headed for the first time by Mike Gatting, reveal two new statistical landmarks. Graham Gooch's average of 2,559 runs and the total of batsmen scoring more than 2,000 runs - five - are the highest since the reduction in county championship matches in 1983.

By contrast, the dry pitches meant hours of toil for the bowlers and one statistic adds weight to the argument that the standard of bowling in the English game has never been lower. In the previous 120 seasons of first-class cricket there have never been as few as the four bowlers who this year finished with an average below 20 runs a wicket, an accepted yardstick for a good season.

Moreover, the men at the top of this year's list, Hadlee and Harper, are from overseas, although it is heartening to see that the first three batsmen in 1979 (16,023) and the first three in 1983 (16,023) were also from overseas.

Hadlee's bowling - 117 wickets at 14.05, four points ahead of the field - would be outstanding in any season, let alone one of such poor vintage, and his 1,179 runs at 51.26 also brought him the first double since 1967 and eleventh place in the batting list; such figures encourage comparison with great all-rounders such as Hirst and Rhodes.

Hadlee's batting, reached new heights in 1984, but his bowling maintained a remarkable sequence since he entered English cricket. In 1978 he finished tenth (average 16.26), in 1979 eighth (16.02) and this first in the next three

Batting

Qualifying for 600 runs, 1000 runs

Player	Runs	Wickets	Avg
M. Gatting	2,559	25	102.76
G. Gooch	2,559	25	102.76
M. K. Denness	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00

Bowling

Qualifying for 100 wickets, 1000 runs

Player	Runs	Wickets	Avg
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00

British eyes will be opened if Wallabies play to their name

By Don Cameron

Visa problem delays

prop forward

Sydney (Reuters) - One member of the Wallabies team who did not leave yesterday was their prop forward, Enrique Rodriguez, the former Argentine international.

After the Wallabies' first test against Argentina in Buenos Aires, he discovered he did not have a visa to enter Britain.

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Warwicks signing

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Bowling

Qualifying for 100 wickets, 1000 runs

Player	Runs	Wickets	Avg
M. J. Gower	2,000	25	80.00
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British eyes will be opened if Wallabies play to their name

By Don Cameron

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The following took 10 wickets but bowled in fewer than 10 overs.

RACING

Don Giovanni's chance to complete quick treble

When Lord Howard de Walden sent Magic Flute, his Chevalier Park Stakes winner, to be mated with the champion Canadian colt Dance in Time, himself a son of the world's most influential stallion, Northern Dancer, winning a handicap steeplechase over two miles at Cheltenham was probably the farthest from his mind.

Yet such are the unpredictable twists of fate, and breeding, that is precisely what he will probably achieve this today with the result of that pairing. Don Giovanni, in the Naisworthy Handicap Chase, a race which his trainer, Fred Winter, and jockey, John Francome, also won 12 months ago.

With 35 mares, 17 foals, 14 yearlings and 28 horses in training, besides shares in many of the top stallions, the Howard de Walden breeding operation is very much geared to the upper end of the Flat racing market.

But their owner has been in the game long enough to smile and take a philosophical attitude towards one of his high-powered matings does not quite have the envisaged results. It was the same story with that high-class jumper Lanzarote, who won the Champion Hurdle in his heyday, and it is the same with Don Giovanni being too

distance during the National Hunt Festival last March.

But if, after a summer's rest, Half-Free is a shade rusty, he may not be able to cope with either Gambling Prince or Foggy Buoys, who should be as nauts following three races this autumn. Gambling Prince, who beat Foggy Buoys by a length at Stratford in September, and then won again at Warwick, is just preferred.

Reg Hollinshead, who has a good chance of winning the Frencie Nicholson Conditional Jockeys Handicap Hurdle, with the recent Ludlow winner Alfie Dickens, also saddles the promising young hurdler. Mariner's Dream for the Rodborough Three-Year-Old Hurdle. But here I prefer Stan Melior's newcomer, Whisky Eyes.

While the Queen is doubtless enjoying her private visit to the marvellous Blue Grass country of Kentucky, news should filter back from York that her colours have been carried to victory in the BBC Radio Humberdale Stakes by Rough Stones, who finished third in the Autumn Cup at Newbury recently. Willie Carson, his rider, can also win the BBC Radio York Handicap on Crampin, who ran well in the Lincs at Ascot last month and I will not be surprised if Carson also collects on Numb-check.

Noddy's Ryde put down

Noddy's Ryde, one of last season's chasing discoveries, had to be destroyed at Devon and Exeter yesterday. Gordon Richards' gelding fell when out clear at the final fence of the Plymouth Gin Gold Challenge Cup and shattered a fetlock.

Neale Doughty, the horse's regular partner, was so distressed that he had to be helped back to the weighing room. Richards said: "This is a terrible tragedy. This horse had a tremendous future. This was the best I have had since Sea Pigeon."



Avec Coeur, and George Dickie, cut Stubble down to size when landing the Brightelmstone Nursery on the Sussex course yesterday (Photograph: Chris Cole)

YORK			
GOING: good			
Draw: low numbers best			
Note double: 3.10, 4.15. Treble: 2.35, 3.40, 4.45.			
5 BBC RADIO SHEFFIELD STAKES (2-y-o; £2,326; 1m) (10 runners)			
2	BOONING (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	T. O'Brien	7
3	CHRISTIAN STAR (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	S. Haywood	4
4	COMMANDEER (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	R. Coombe	6
5	DOUBTLESS (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	M. Birch	2
6	DON RUINI (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	W. Cram	8
7	DOUBTLESS (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	D. Mitchell	3
8	DON RUINI (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	W. Cram	5
9	DON RUINI (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	D. Mitchell	1
10	DON RUINI (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	D. Mitchell	1
11	DON RUINI (P. Smead) P 5-10-10	D. Mitchell	1
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£7,000 - £7,300 p.a.

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Details telephone 01-642 2846

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Requirements are: excellent shorthand and typing skills, a mature, capable secretary, at least 21 years of age, to be his right hand.

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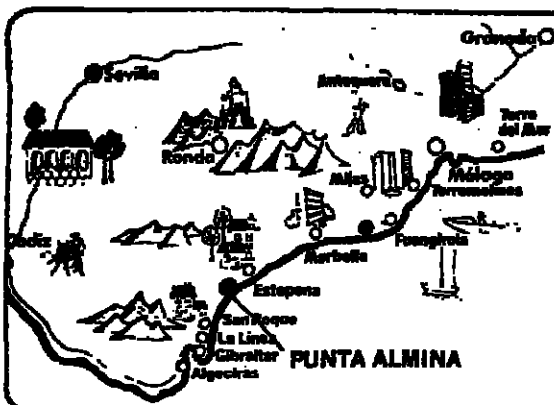
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LOT 17 GARDENS VALLEY, FRANCE. We are instructed by Guy Corbin, the international estate agent, to offer this property for sale. Situated in the quiet and peaceful village of Puyssat, 15 minutes from the town of Clermont-Ferrand, the property is built on a hillside and is a very attractive house with a large garden. The house is a 19th century house with a large garden. The house is a 19th century house with a large garden. The house is a 19th century house with a large garden.

British still best customers for the Costa mongers

By Diana Wildman

Property developers along Spain's Costa del Sol are still promoting and selling to a predominantly British market. The frenetic purchasing of the past four years dropped during the spring and summer months but there is now a market of UK buyers wanting a property in the sun.

For some inexplicable reason the majority of UK purchasers forgo the services of a solicitor. There are few problems but it must be considered an extremely short-sighted move, especially as the costs involved are only a few hundred pounds.

That is a small price to pay for advice that, for example, ensures that there is no outstanding mortgage on the property.

The 4,000 acre Sotogrande estate, established 20 years ago, has managed to stay removed from the building activity affecting so much of the Costa del Sol. One reason is that it is at the far western end of the coast, just 20 minutes from Gibraltar but almost a two-hour drive from Malaga, whilst Marbella is 45 minutes from the airport.

Sotogrande facilities include two championship golf courses, two polo fields, a tennis complex, riding stables, beach club, international school and its own estate office. There is a small selection of large, individually-designed, 15-year-old villas for sale. One is Los Arcos, for which Christopher Stephenson International wants offers in the region of \$1.5 million.

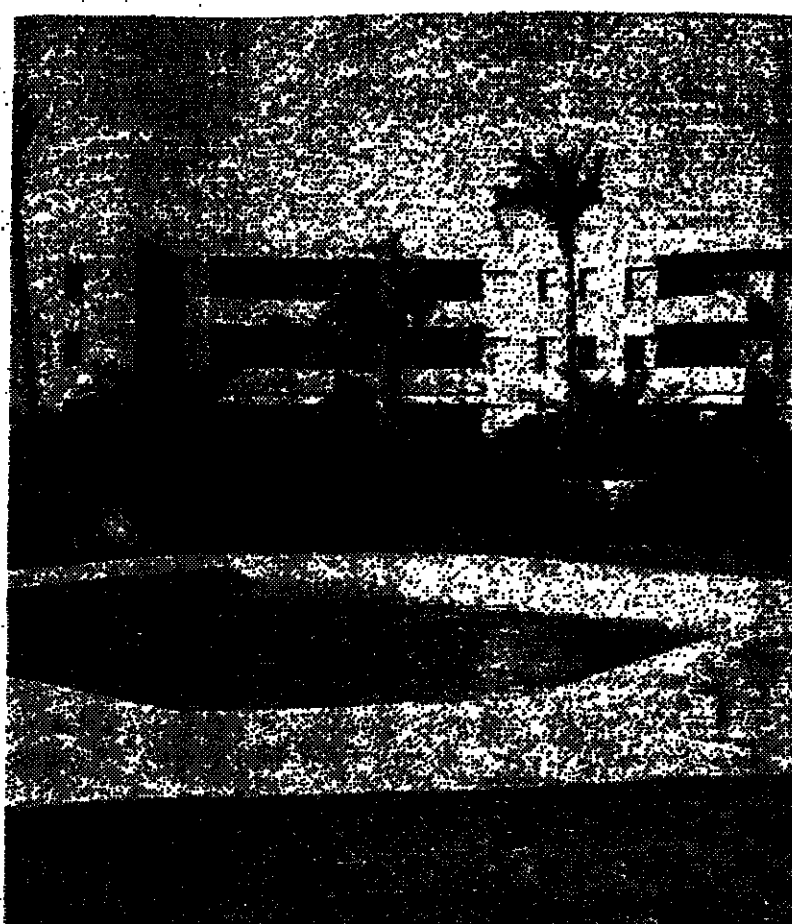
This Moorish-style house, set in secluded gardens with a large pool, has five main bedroom suites and four large reception rooms. Details are available from Christopher Stephenson, The White House, East Garston, Newbury, Berkshire RG16 7EY, tel: 04883 654.

Spec building

However, speculative building has crept into a corner of this vast estate. This is Sotogolf, being built near the entrance to the Sotogrande estate above the old golf course, which will consist of 90 three- and four-bedroom traditionally-styled town houses grouped around swimming pools and tennis courts.

Sixteen houses are ready for occupation at prices ranging from £62,000 to £68,000, but the leisure facilities will not be ready till January. Fincasol, of 4 Bridge Street, Salisbury, SP1 2LX (0722 26444), are the agents for Sotogolf and for Puerto Sotogrande, a five-year-old development of beach-side apartments and riverbank town houses set within the main Sotogrande estate.

Out of the 378 Puerto Sotogrande units completed in the seven low-rise blocks, 329 are sold, so are three



Puerto Sotogrande is essentially a family-orientated holiday development with separate swimming pools for children and providing sailing, tennis and windsurfing.

apartments out of 24. Seven of the 12 penthouses have been sold from plan and construction not due to start till later this year for completion in autumn 1985.

Launching prices range from £42,337 for a one-bedroom apartment to £232,558 for a four-bedroom penthouse with private pool and terraces with all-round views.

Puerto Sotogrande has its own beach club and facilities which include a 24 hour security patrol service. It also has the greatest commodity of all at its disposal - space, because its distance from the jet-set activities at Marbella means land values are lower.

Detailed planning permission has already been granted for a 1,500-berth marina. The internationally-renowned marina at Puerto Banus, just outside Marbella, offers a total contrast in holiday living to the leisure facilities of Sotogrande.

Jardines del Puerto, which is under construction behind Puerto Banus, is being built in the same traditional Andalusian whitewashed pueblo-style architecture. The first of 33 one, two

and three-bedroom luxury apartments, out of 180, is due for completion in next summer and is being marketed between £40,800 and £99,600.

Jardines del Puerto will be well-landscaped; essential because of the proximity to the Puerto Banus access road. Its leisure complex includes swimming pools, tennis and squash courts and an indoor recreation area with sauna, jacuzzi and gymnasium.

Every apartment has underground parking and the grounds will be covered by 24 security. Details from Euro Property Advisers in association with Winkworth, 27a New Street, Salisbury SP1 2PH (0722 330847).

An exhibition featuring Jardines del Puerto and other Costa del Sol properties is being held tomorrow and Friday at London's Cafe Royal, Regent Street from 11-8.

A wide selection of good-quality individual re-sale villas - slightly inland in the foothills of the Sierra Blanca behind and above Marbella - are available from £15,000 through Sturgis International, 61 Park Lane, London, W1Y 3TB (0493 1693).

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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Luxury Flats where Jack was all right

The former country home of J.B. Priestley on the Isle of Wight has been converted into six luxury flats, four of which are for sale through Sir Francis Pitts and Son of Newport (Newport 523812).

Brook Hill House was completed in 1914 entirely of Caen Stone, in the orders of the first Lord Mottistone, in whose family the house remained until 1946 when Priestley acquired it. The house is in woodland above the hamlet of Brook less than three miles from Freshwater, and overlooks the Channel.

The four two-bedroom flats, with 999 year leases, range from £82,000 to £103,500.

A two bedroom town house in Bury Walk, Chelsea, owned by Celia Sandys, granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill, is offered at £350,000 through W.A. Ellis and Russell Simpson, joint agents. The three-floored property includes a self-contained basement flat.

£850,000 whirl

Nearly 200 apartments in Lowndes Square, Belgravia, until now available on seven year leases, are now to be offered on 75 years leases by Sun Life Assurance Society, who are selling eight refurbished flats through Allsopp and Co and Farebrother.

They range from two bedrooms with two bathrooms at £160,000 to an £850,000 apartment with seven bedrooms, three reception rooms and four bathrooms.

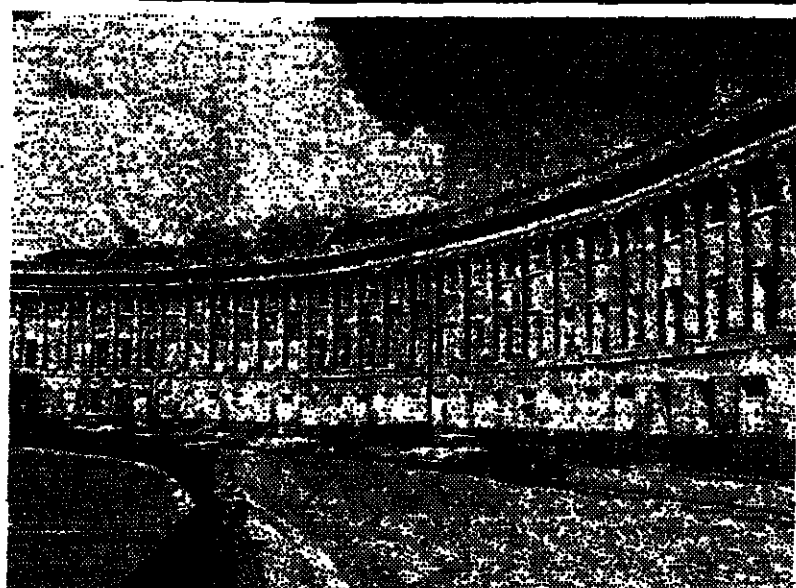
All have fully fitted kitchens and marble tiled bathrooms, many with whirlpool baths.

Barrett houses are usually at the lower end of the market, but one has been sold close to the asking price of £680,000 on The Grange development on the edge of Hampstead Heath. The property, sold through Westside Estates to a banker, was one of the first showhouses in the 23 house development and this is the first resale.

Tower power

A country house at Leeds, near Maidstone, Kent, built for a German Methodist minister who incorporated a tower so that he could watch his farm staff at work - is for sale at around £200,000 through Cobbs' offices at Bearsted and Sevenoaks.

Yew Dene built for Wilhelm Kruss in 1886 in five acres includes three reception rooms, a master bedroom suite and five further bedrooms. The kitchen retains the original bread oven and a cast iron range and rear courtyard contains two original water pumps.



Number 22, Royal Crescent, Bath, a Grade I Georgian house which is one of the last of the splendid Crescent to have been maintained in its entirety and not split into flats, is for sale through Humberts' offices in London and Chippingham. More than £200,000 is wanted for the freehold of the house, built by John Wood Junior between 1767 and 1775, and retaining many original features, including the Bath stone floors to the entrance hall and pine boarded floors in the main rooms. Accommodation includes four reception rooms, eight bedrooms and four bathrooms. The house has a garden and garaging for six cars.

This is the ultimate - a real home from Holme

There are several people it appears, who are not only willing but eager to spend more than £5m for a house in London. The Holme, in Regent's Park, is not just any house of course. Designed by Decimus Burton and completed in 1818, it is one of the few remaining "Nash" villas in the Park and has grounds of 4.5 acres running down to the lake.

The Holme was put on the market by the Crown Estate Commissioners in July, with the stipulation that the property, recently used as part of Bedford College, should revert to its former residential use as a single-family house.

Knight Frank and Rutley, who are handling the sale for the Commissioners, have now issued a "final announcement" about the property before taking it off the market by the end of October. It was always intended that the house should be on the market for a limited period and it is hoped that the sale will be completed by the end of the year.

Not surprisingly, for a house described as the "most important house in London to come on to the market since the war", the agents have received considerable interest and several offers to buy it. It has been made clear that no offers will be entertained until the end of the marketing period, after which the potential buyers must make their bids.

The would-be owners of The Holme come from both Britain and overseas, and the person who finally takes possession of this magnificent

house has to be approved by the Commissioners. While they want to get the best possible price, the highest bid will not necessarily be the winning bid, for they are determined that the new owner will be an "acceptable" person to live in such a property.

The house, which has 40 rooms, is in continuous private residential use from 1818 to 1939, owned between the wars by George Dance, the songwriter and impresario, who carried out alterations and additions, and then by Mrs Marshall Field. Since then, 40 years of institutional use have "ruined" it, in the words of Mr Peter Keaton, partner in Knight Frank and Rutley, and it now needs full renovation.

Once that is done, the owner will receive a new 60-year Crown lease, but he has yet another responsibility to open the garden and grounds to the public at least four times a year.

The only other comparable houses in London in the agents' view, are Buckingham Palace, Lambeth Palace, and Winfield House also in Regent's Park, the home of the US Ambassador, none of which is likely to come on to the market. As Mr Keaton said when the house was offered for sale, "We know of no other London house in the middle of the capital of that size and quality and we think you cannot find anything like it in any other capital city - New York, Rome, Paris, or anywhere".

Christopher Warman

Country Property

PEARSONS

HURSTBOURNE TARRANT
Semi-detached, 17th cent.
Kitchen, dining room, 2
bathrooms, 3 bedrooms, 10
ft. c.h. Further 17th cent.
cottage, 3 bedrooms, 10
ft. c.h. and small
cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS
INVITED.
Harley Wintney, Office
(02512) 2505.

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Twelve, Midland, 18th cent. from Park Lane on M4, 10 miles from London. 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

WEST DORSET

Main stone house, rural views, 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

North Oxfordshire/Warwickshire Border

Small building, 7 1/2 acres, 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

4 MILES WELLS SOMERSET

Formerly a 16th century, 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

MACKINNON HATHWAY

Large and small houses, 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

GLASGOW Terrace house in good condition

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

UNIQUE FAMILY HOME

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

DEERY, IN ATTRACTIVE VILLAGE

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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WALLINGTON, Surrey, 1977 4 bed

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Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

Strutt & Parker

01-629 7282 1, Hill Street, Berkeley Square, London W1X 4AB

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Freehold building land at the back of Roydon Station. Zoned for Residential Development. ABOUT 15 ACRES.

FOR SALE BY TENDER. Closing date 14th November. By Joint Sole Agents ROWLEY SON & ROYCE, The Market, Roydon, Herts, HRS 4212 (Tel: 0438 522222). Strutt & Parker, London Office, 01-629 7282 (Ref. 1AB9074).

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Spacious late Victorian villa, 6 beds, 3 reception, study, bath, cloakroom, kitchen, workshop, 2 garages, good gardens, superb views over parkland, 1 mile station. £100,000. GT Misenden (02408) 2741.

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Substantial Edwardian family house, 6 beds, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

OVERLOOKING GATCOMBE PARK

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

PETERBOROUGH

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

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4 beds det, 300 years old, 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

COTSWOLDS

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

FISHPOD, NR CHARMOUTH

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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DEERY, IN ATTRACTIVE VILLAGE

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Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

Humberts

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OLD CHELSEA, SW3

MAGNIFICENT FREEHOLD. Elegant period residence in excellent order throughout. The house offers spacious accommodation with drawing room, dining room, good kitchen/breakfast room, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large terrace and beautiful front and rear gardens plus a studio cottage. Substantial offers required.

FAR REACHING VIEWS OVER HYDE PARK, W2

Exceptionally bright and spacious duplex apartment on the 4th and 5th floors of this outstanding Regency Terrace. 20th reception room, study, excellent kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, porter, lift, private gardens. £5 year lease. £270,000.

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Overlooking Harbour and Marina. An exciting development of new flats created within a listed building overlooking the Harbour. Gas central heating, lift, video entry phone system, porter and with walking distance of City Centre. Ready Spring 1985. Prices from £36,000 for one bedroom to £106,000 for 3 bedroom penthouse.

JENNINGS

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4 bed houses £91-94,000. Show homes open daily from 10am. Salisbury Road, Phone 01-337 2192

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A substantial and appealing period house in beautiful setting. 17th century, 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

CENTRAL HEREFORDSHIRE

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
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WARWICKSHIRE

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Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

North of the Thames

BEAUCHAMPESTATES

MELBURY COURT, KIDDERSTON. Excellent value for 5 beds det in 100 acres, 6 beds, 3 baths, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

LADGROVE GROVE, W2

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

LITTLE VERNICE, OUTSTANDING FAMILY HOME

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

UNMODERNISED PHILLIMORE ESTATE

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

LEXHAM GARDENS, W2

10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

01-499 7722

PERFECT PEACE

Beautiful Period Residence. Five minutes from Hyde Park. The last of the great drawing room overlooking the Hyde Park. 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 ft. c.h. and small cottage, 1/2 acre gdn. OFFERS INVITED.
Tel: 01-462 1410.
2500 sq. ft. to 4.50 per sq. ft.

A Listed Country House

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.00 **Casualty** AM.
- 6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Elaine Scott. News from Peter Birtles at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.50; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18. Plus Mike Smith with the new Top Twenty and Elaine Scott's report from the Western Isles.
- 9.00 **Quarber**. Today's edition of the magazine programme for Asian women in the form of a multi-lingual mhashala - a poetry symposium.
- 9.25 **Conservative Party Conference 1984**. Coverage of the second day of the debates. 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Ian Lauchlan (r).
- 10.50 **Conservative Party Conference 1984**.
- 12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Cowdell. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only; elsewhere followed by news headlines with subtitles).
- 1.00 **Pebble Mill** at One includes another Chinese cookery lesson from Lisa Kinnear. 1.45 **Gran** (r). 1.50 **Stop-Go!** (r).
- 2.00 **Village School**. The second of three programmes examining how a Cotswold primary was saved from closure by 'federation' with a bigger school.
- 2.30 **Conservative Party Conference 1984**. The afternoon's debates. 3.48 **Play School**, presented by Jackie Jackson. 4.10 **SuperTed** in Texas. 4.15 **Jackanory**. Pam Ayres tells her own story. Bertha and the Racing Pigeon. 4.30 **Screen Test**. Round table quiz. 4.55 **The Children's Newsworld**.
- 5.00 **Think of a Number**. Johnny Ball with another lighthearted look at the world of science and number.
- 5.25 **The Good Life**. Money is running short for the self-sufficient Goodies and Tom has the urge to use some extra cash - but not to play the odd bit bills (r). 5.58 **Weather**.
- 6.00 **News** with Jeremy Paxman and Nicholas Witchell.
- 6.30 **London Plus**.
- 6.55 **Points of View**. Barry Took with another selection of viewers' letters panning or praising BBC Television programmes.
- 7.05 **Hottie**. A live phone-in personal column, presented by Chris Tarrant and Mary Parkinson.
- 8.00 **No Place Like Home**. Domestic comedy series starring William Gault and Patricia Gaudy.
- 8.30 **Cold Warrior**. Secret Service agent starring Michael Denison as Captain Percival, determined to stop an assassination attempt on the Israeli foreign minister (Crest).
- 9.00 **News** with Julia Somerville.
- 9.25 **The Black Adder**. The final episode ends the wicked Black Adder's quest for the throne of England. Starring Rowan Atkinson (r).
- 10.00 **Sportnight** introduced by Harry Carraway. There are profiles of England goalkeeper Peter Shilton and Irish boxer Barry McGuigan plus reports from tonight's Milk Cup football matches.
- 10.50 **Film: The Skull** (1965) starring Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee. Chiller about two men's decision to delve into the secrets of the skull of the Marquis de Sade. Directed by Freddie Francis.
- 12.10 **News** headlines and weather.

tv-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain**, presented by Jayne Irving and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.30 and 7.30; exercises at 6.40 and 8.20; Popeye cartoon at 7.52; David Essex pop video at 7.54; star romance at 8.15; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.34; Ronnie Carroll remembers at 8.43; Roddy Llewellyn's gardening hints at 9.06.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 **Thames news headlines**. 9.30 **For Schools**: Possible sources of energy. 9.47 **Care of the land** on which we grow our food. 10.04 **Chemistry**. Mechanism of Alkene Bromination. 10.21 **Farrukh Dhondy's A Passage to the East**. 10.48 **Changing the world**. 11.00 **The world of a policeman**. 11.22 **How animals care for their young**. 11.30 **How we used to live**.
- 12.00 **Red, Jane and Freddy** with a musical story for the young. 12.10 **Our Backyard**. Sand, cement and gravel are delivered. What are they for? 12.30 **The Stillness**.
- 1.00 **News at One** with Leonard Farrant. 1.20 **Thames news**. 1.30 **A Country Practice**. Medical drama set in the Australian outback. 2.30 **Farmhouse Kitchen**. Grace Mugill and the preparation of fresh vegetables. 3.00 **Take the High Road**. Drama serial set on a Scottish highland estate. 3.25 **Thames news** headlines. 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**.
- 4.00 **Red, Jane and Freddy**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Tower**. 4.20 **Sara's Luck**. Part three of the Australian series about a group of perennials children. 4.50 **Field Tight Fun**. Games and music from reggae band Aswad. Presented by Bob Carrol and Sue Robble. 5.15 **Blockbusters**.
- 5.30 **Thames news** with Andrew Gardner and Tina Jenkins.
- 6.25 **Help! Vix Taylor** Gee with details of the Black and in Cars Conference, the first conference of its kind to be held in London.
- 6.35 **Crossroads**. Kevin Banks returns home from work with tragic news that Adam Chance has the tricky problem of who to sack from the garage.
- 7.00 **Name That Tune**. The first of a new series, presented by Lionel Blair, in which contestants have their musical knowledge tested.
- 7.30 **Coronation Street**. Ken Barlow has an argument with his wife over his friendship with Sally Waterman (Orlady).
- 8.00 **Benny Hill**. Comic sketches and songs. The last in the series of repeats.
- 8.30 **Red, Jane and Freddy**. The domestic comedy ends with a William and Hester becoming in-laws and in the process having to dash the length of the country (Orlady).
- 9.00 **Minden Second Hand Pose**. The uneasy relationship between Arthur and Terry comes to an end when Terry accidentally locked in a cold storage room. Terry seeks employment with the even shadier Charlie Pope (Orlady).
- 10.00 **News at Ten** followed by **Thames news headlines**. 10.05 **Midweek Sports Special**. Highlights from one of tonight's second round, second leg matches in the Milk Cup; plus boxing from Frank Warren's London promotion and an interview with Terry Venables.
- 10.20 **The Electric Theatre Show**. Part two of a profile of composer Vangelis.
- 12.25 **Night Thoughts** from Sister Jean Robinson.



Lillian Gish: Broken Blossoms (Channel 4, 9.00 pm)

● Evidence is not lacking tonight to confirm something about which I suspect many viewers will already be convinced: that silence, specifically when it involves the total absence of talk, is golden. At the more modest end of the scale, there are the comedy highlights in HAROLD LLOYD (BBC2, 8.50 pm) and the movie milestones, including our first glimpse of the screen's first Tarzan, Elmo Lincoln, in SILENTS PLEASE (Channel 4, 9.00 pm). But the night's silent highlight is undoubtedly the third of the four full-length films in the *Thames Silents* season, BROKEN BLOSSOMS (Channel 4, 9.00 pm). This is D.W. Griffith's 1919 movie starring Lillian Gish as the father-battered cockney girl on whom the sun, in the occasional shape of Richard Barthelmess as the oriental poet who fetches up as a shopkeeper in

London's Limehouse, briefly but ecstatically shines. Miss Gish, in a specially filmed preamble to the film, spoils it for us by revealing what is more or less true: that everyone in the film ends up dead. But at least she balances this disservice by putting *Broken Blossoms* into its historical perspective with her reminder (again more or less true) that in making his film, Griffith put tragic poetry on the screen for the first time. Sixty-five years later, we are tempted to debate both the film's excessive villainy and its virtue. But for sheer terror, is there anything in modern cinema to surpass Miss Gish's agony after she has looked herself in the closet, with her brutish father hacking away at the door with his axe?

CHOICE

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● DISSONANCE (Radio 3, 7.30 pm) is Sandra Freeman's play about the chaotic marriage of a brooding Nietzsche, an adored disciple, and his best friend, and it suggests other reasons for the philosopher's descent into madness than those that are usually trotted out: overwork and solitude. The Nietzschean gospel of the Superman, necessarily much condensed, sometimes has to struggle hard to be heard against some over-insistent music by Iona Skelton whose output is so immense these days that I am beginning to think of her as Radio 3 drama department's resident composer. He admiringly keeps the hysteria in check until it demands to be given its head, and is given it.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

- 9.00 **Casualty**.
- 9.10 **Daytime on Two: Technology** used in modern industry. 9.30 **Different types of paper**. 10.00 **You and me**. For the very young. 10.15 **Maths**: rounding numbers up and down. 10.30 **Maths**: trigonometry. 11.00 **Reconciling differences**. 11.17 **Music**: vocal sounds. 11.39 **Science**: a guide to lasers. 12.05 **Russians and the Russian language**.
- 12.30 **Young people with ideas**. 12.55 **Inside the Youth Training Scheme**. 1.21 **Young French people**. 1.38 **The difference between dairy and beef farming**. 2.00 **Captain Cook** reaches the Antarctic. 2.18 **A rural community** in a drought-stricken north-east Brazil. 2.40 **Water for the desert** (Crest).
- 3.00 **Dallas**. Another episode from the last series of the soap opera. This is the one where everybody becomes excited about the Oil Barons' Ball (r) (Crest).
- 3.45 **Conservative Party Conference 1984**.
- 5.30 **News summary** with subtitles. 5.35 **Inside Women's Magazines**. The second programme in the series tracing the evolution of women's magazines. The narrator is Maureen Lipman (r).
- 6.00 **I Can Jump Puddles**. Episode six of the drama based on the autobiographical novels of Australian Alan Marshall who was crippled with polio when young. Alan is now 19 and dreams of a literary career are quickly quashed (r).
- 6.50 **Harold Lloyd**. Excerpts from two of the comedian's films - the 1926 released *Speedy* in which he has an eventful day on Coney Island and *I Do* (1921) which finds him holding the bag (r).
- 7.15 **The Rise and Fall of King Cotton**. Anthony Burton's series on the history of the cotton industry comes to an end with a review of the state of the industry today.
- 7.45 **My Music**. Frank Muir and John Amis challenge Denis Norden and Ian Wallace to a lighthearted test of musical knowledge. The question setter and master is Steve Race (r).
- 8.10 **Chronicle Over Greece**: Battle for the Acropolis. The documentary about the battle to save the Acropolis from collapse. Atmospheric pollution and earlier, less expert, restoration has put the building in a state of near disintegration (r).
- 9.00 **Red Ladies**. Hinge and Brackett enthusiastically throw themselves into preparations for the annual open-air production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
- 9.30 **The Sea of Faith**. Part five of Don Cupitt's series on the reasons for today's crisis of religious faith (Crest).
- 10.20 **Jack Hill**. The first matches in Group B of the Gateway Masters Bowls Tournament.
- 10.50 **Newsnight**. Ends at 11.50.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 **Conservatives '84**. Live. Stephen Lash, Shadow Secretary of the Conservative Party, Conference. Ends at 12.30.
- 2.30 **Conservatives '84**. Coverage of the afternoon's debates.
- 5.30 **The Mary Tyler Moore Show**. Mary plays cupid this evening as eligible bachelor Chuck is led to believe that Rhoda shares Mary's apartment. As the romance blossoms so the subterfuge continues but a hiccup occurs when Chuck, pursuing his new-found career as a forest ranger, takes the two girls and a number of his other hands on an overnight hike.
- 6.00 **Silents Please**. The series on the history of the silent screen continues with another selection of films - including the Swedish film *Gravitation*, Gerlie the Dinosaur, and the first Tarzan film, starring Elmo Lincoln. There are also clips from the first Frankenstein (1930) and from *The New York Times* (1913) as well as *Fatima*, the first film to have censorship troubles.
- 6.30 **The Living Body**. Part four of the 25-episode journey through the inner workings of the human body, the reason for sleep. The programme was recorded on a cruise in the Pacific, using the events on the ocean going liner to illuminate the living body as it sleeps. The programme includes a computer display of the waves that sweep across the brain during a night's sleep.
- 7.00 **Channel Four News** with Peter Sessions includes a report from Lawrence McGinn on Bristol's new science 'exploratory' museum.
- 7.50 **Comment**. The political slot this week is provided by the Labour MP for Blackburn, Jack Straw.
- 8.00 **Scotland's Story**. Part nine of the story of Scotland and the Scottish people, concentrating on the economic and political developments during the last years of the 17th century. The narrator is Isabel Blyth.
- 8.30 **Diverse Reports**. The weekly current affairs programme tonight examines the controversial Fleet Street takeovers. Christopher Hird reports.
- 9.00 **Silent Classics: Broken Blossoms** (1919) starring Lillian Gish. Directed by D.W. Griffith (see Choice on p. 5).
- 10.50 **Robert Mitchum**. In this, the second in the series of Guardian Lectures held at the National Film Theatre, Robert Mitchum talks to Derek Malcolm, film critic of the *Guardian*, about his life and career.
- 11.35 **Film: Double Impact** (1979). The story of Leonard, a day-tripper from Dublin, at a country house. He becomes bored and wanders away from the party and notices the coach when it is time to go. Written and directed by Robert Wynne Simmons.
- 12.05 **Closedown**.

Radio 4

- On long wave, 7 denotes stereo on VHF. 8 denotes stereo on FM.
- 6.00 **News Briefing**. 6.10 **Prayer for the Day**. 6.30 **Today**, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 **News Summary**, 8.55, 7.55, 8.25 **Sports**, 7.45 **Thought for the Day**.
- 8.43 **The Awakening** by Kate Chopin. Read by David S. 8.57 **Weather**. 9.00 **News**. 9.05 **Libby Furves** with studio guests. 10.00 **News: Gardeners' Question Time**. 10.10 **News: "Alice and the Juggling Plumber"** by Fred Uppert. 10.21 **Read by Fraser Kerr**. 10.45 **Daily Service** (REM, page 58). 11.00 **News**. 11.05 **The Return of "Tiger" Lyon**. Neil Hunter tells the story of Colonel Victor Lyon and his exploits in the Middle East. 11.45 **Mighty Myths** (new series) Derek Robinson challenges some beliefs we take for granted. 1. The Swedish film *Gravitation*. 12.00 **News**. 12.05 **You and Yours**. Consumer affairs. With Paul Heywood. 12.27 **No Place to Hide** by Ted Albray. Stripped in eight parts (1) (r). 12.55 **Weather**. 1.00 **The World at One**. 1.40 **News**. 1.55 **Shipping Forecast**. 2.00 **News: Woman's Hour**. Today edition includes an interview with John Ridley, the reason for the world's yearning. 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